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IRA threatens peace talks

Terms to which Adams agreed prove unacceptable

By Martin Fletcher

THE IRA threw the peace process into turmoil yesterday by disavowing the so-called Mitchell principles of democracy and non-violence to which its political wing, Sinn Fein, had solemnly committed itself on Tuesday.

It also ruled out any disarmament during the the peace negotiations due to begin on Monday, and rejected the principle of consent whereby a majority of Northern Ireland's people would have to approve any constitutional change.

Outraged Unionists *demanded Sinn Fein's expulsion* from the negotiations and Ulster Unionist Party officials said they saw no way that their executive would now agree to face-to-face talks with Sinn Fein. Proximity talks remain a possibility.

The British and Irish Governments and the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party all expressed dismay, while the Democratic Unionists claimed the IRA had "launched an Exocet" at the entire peace process.

The IRA's dramatic intervention came in the form of an interview in *An Phoblacht*, the Republican movement's official mouthpiece.

An unnamed spokesman said that the IRA "would have problems with sections of the Mitchell principles" to which Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, pledged his "total and absolute" commitment at Stormont on Tuesday. Those principles include a commitment to democratic and exclusively peaceful means of resolving political issues, the renunciation of violence to influence negotiations, and the total disarmament of all paramilitary organisations.

Unionists have long demanded some IRA disarmament as proof of Sinn Fein's commitment to peace, but the IRA spokesman insisted that no-one had "ever realistically expected us to agree to decommissioning this side of a political settlement . . . decommissioning would be tantamount to surrender."

The IRA spokesman also rejected the principle of consent, saying the only valid consent was that of all Ireland. "The idea that a minority grouping in Ireland, situated within the Six Counties, should have a veto over political progress in the island as a whole is anathema to republicans."

Mitchel McLaughlin, the Sinn Fein chairman, struggled to explain the interview yesterday. He insisted that it changed nothing and would help to clarify the situation before the negotiations. "Sinn Fein is a political party with a democratic mandate. We are not spokespersons for the IRA. We are not representing the IRA and we didn't sign up on behalf of the IRA."

But no one in Belfast, Dublin or London accepted that. Ken Maginnis of the UUP and Peter Robinson of the DUP both denounced Tuesday's *ceremony as a sham and* a charade and called on the Government to withdraw Sinn Fein's invitation to the talks on Monday.

The Northern Ireland Office, which said there was no doubt that Sinn Fein and the IRA were "inextricably linked", acknowledged that the interview was "worrying". And Bertie Ahern, the Taoiseach, said the interview was "a matter of major concern". He insisted that the entire republican movement had to honour the Mitchell principles.

Why the IRA spoke, page 2

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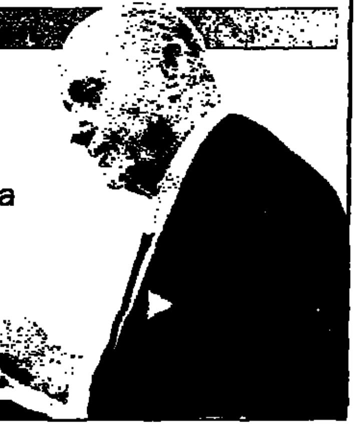

Early payers to see gas bills fall by up to £50

By Alasdair Murray and Christine Buckley

BRITISH GAS is to cut bills for prompt payers by up to £50 a year from January as competition within the industry intensifies. But customers who pay for their gas in advance through meters — usually the poorest people — will receive no benefit.

Centrica, the British Gas parent company, said yesterday that it had been able to cut prices because of lower transport costs and the removal of the gas levy next year.

The average bill is expected to fall by £28 a year. Six million customers who pay by direct debit — and already enjoy a 6 per cent discount for doing so — will see their bills fall by about £50, while up to ten million people who settle within ten days will benefit to the tune of £33 a year.

The move is certain to heighten the price war between Centrica and its main rivals as the industry moves towards nationwide competition in June. Rivals in the South have been undercutting Centrica *by up to 20 per cent.*

Mike Alexander, managing director of British Gas Trading, said the cuts were designed *to benefit as many* customers as possible. But the Gas Consumers Council gave the move only a cautious welcome, saying it would disadvantage poorer people who prepaid their bills. Prices for those customers have been *frozen* pending an review by the industry regulator Ofgas.

Sue Slipman, the consumers' council director, said: "There are going to be millions of consumers who will be better off because of this. Particularly for the elderly, for those who pay promptly and use low volumes of gas, this is good news.

"It is not good news, however, for the one million people who have pre-payment meters. What we cannot do is abandon the poor, and that is what we are doing now."

But Mr Alexander said that people on pre-payment schemes were effectively still getting a subsidy from other British Gas customers. "They already get a good deal because they are paying less than the cost of supply."

Ms Slipman also expressed concern yesterday over plans to reduce the smell of gas — which unions interpreted as an attempt to cut jobs.

Natural gas has no odour and a chemical is added to domestic supplies so that leaks can be detected. Transco, the British Gas pipeline network, is now studying whether to reduce the levels of odorant to reduce emergency call-outs.

Transco announced its proposals during a cost-cutting presentation to unions at which plans to cut 2,500 jobs were outlined. And yesterday Unison claimed that the move was designed to cut the number of calls from the public about leaks and thereby the number of gas engineers.

Rodney Bickerstaffe, the Unison general secretary, said: "Lives will be put at risk if Transco goes ahead with this ludicrous plan. If gas is made more difficult to smell it will mean more gas leaks will go undetected increasing the likely risk of explosion, serious injuries or even deaths."

But Transco denied that plans to reduce the smell were a cost-cutting ploy. A spokesman said: "Too much odorant will give rise to unnecessary emergency gas callouts, so *diverting resources* from the sources of real escapes."

Ms Slipman said: "It would be foolish at the opening of the competitive market for Transco to do anything that would jeopardise the public's confidence in gas safety."

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JEFF MITCHELL

The 700th anniversary of Wallace's defeat of the English was marked at Stirling yesterday

Confusion over Scots voting

By Shirley English

SCOTLAND'S chief returning officer had to contact all 32 voting areas during yesterday's referendum after confusion over the two ballot papers.

Neil McIntosh took the action after it emerged that voters in some areas were not automatically receiving their second ballot paper.

The referendum questions were on two sheets: the white asked if voters wanted a Scottish parliament and the green asked if they wanted the parliament to have tax varying powers.

But there were complaints that in some areas polling officials were asking voters if they wanted the second paper or telling them to vote on the first and return for the second.

Mr McIntosh said he did not believe the overall results had been seriously affected as the problem had been rectified quickly and no further difficulties had been reported since the morning.

British tourists flee gun battle on beach

From David Orr in Nairobi and Joanna Bale

A BUS *carrying* British tourists had to escape from a Kenyan beach yesterday after a band of armed raiders launched an attack.

One Kenyan was killed and two were wounded, witnesses said, when more than 60 men armed with Kalashnikovs descended on Ukunda township, 15 miles south of Mombasa. Bars and shops were set on fire.

Reinforcements from Kenya's elite General Service Unit were called after police were forced to retreat. Fighting between the two sides was continuing near the beach resort last night.

The Britons were being driven from a Diani beach hotel to the Shima Hills National Park when their bus had to be diverted. John Ajode, a guide with Portland Holidays, who was on the bus, said most of the tourists now wanted their holidays cancelled and *they had asked him to organise* immediate all-risk insurance cover.

In recent weeks there have *been a series of attacks on up*-country Kenyans living on the coast. Ethnic groups from the interior, who are regarded locally as being opposed to President Daniel arap Moi, are blamed for the violence which has claimed more than 50 victims since the middle of last month.

A Foreign Office spokesman said last night: "The honorary consul in Mombasa is urgently checking on the safety of any British tourists."

Last month, thousands of Britons were confined to their *hotels after five Kenyans* were killed when youths armed with machetes and spears attacked a village north of Mombasa.

The Foreign Office has warned against travelling after dark and advises tourists to be "particularly vigilant and to keep in close touch with their tour operators, hotels and local authorities."

Around 100,000 Britons visit Kenya each year. However, its image as a holiday resort has been tarnished in recent years by the murder and rape *of a number of tourists.*

Mouth-watering sweet reborn as star

By Dominic Walsh

OPAL FRUITS, the chewy sweets that are "made to make your mouth water", have fall*en victim to globalisation* and are to be renamed Starburst, the brand they are sold under in America and elsewhere.

Mars, *the confectionery* group, was somewhat coy about its plans yesterday but admitted that from November it would be introducing the Starburst name via "an on-pack flash" alongside the existing name. The company

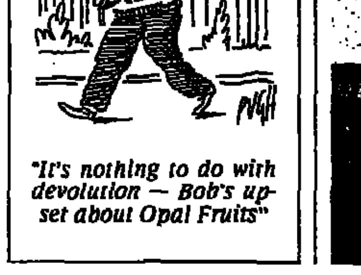
used the same technique with its Marathon bars in 1990. Initially the Snickers name appeared alongside Marathon, but gradually the Marathon brand was consigned to oblivion.

But Mars was quick to point out that it is not all one-way traffic. In 1992, for example, the company decided the Twix brand should take precedence over the name Raider used on the Continent.

News of the demise of Opal Fruits is revealed in this week's issue of *Super-Marketing* magazine. Linda Pettit, the magazine's editor, said: "There's always a risk in changing an established brand name, but then doubts were expressed when Mars decided to change Marathon to Snickers, which people have accepted. It makes sense for a company like Mars to have brands they can promote throughout the world."

Mars's strategy is supported by industry statistics. In its original guise, the Marathon bar was ninth in the list of best-selling confectionery in the UK. By the time it had become established as Snickers it had moved up to third. Indeed, Snickers sits just behind M & M's as the biggest selling confectionery brand in the world with sales of more than $1 billion (£625 million).

Leading article, page 19



"It's nothing to do with devolution — Bob's upset about Opal Fruits"

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CALIFORNIA

Unionists fear IRA move is aimed at them

***Martin Fletcher** looks at the possible reasons behind the terrorists' decision to throw the peace process into chaos*

AT LEAST four theories surfaced in Belfast yesterday to explain the extraordinary timing of the IRA's apparent rejection of the route to peace in the republican newspaper, *An Phoblacht*.

The Sinn Fein leadership may have been trying to appease rebellious hardliners after Gerry Adams's adoption of the Mitchell principles of democracy and non-violence two days earlier. It may have been seeking to ensure that tomorrow's meeting of the Ulster Unionist Party executive decides not to join full-scale peace negotiations beginning on Monday. The IRA may have ordered its political wing to publish the interview. Or the terrorists may simply have been reminding the world on the eve of the negotiations that they have not gone away.

Many Unionists favour the theory that, despite all Sinn Fein's appeals to the UUP to join the talks, it really does not want them at the table. The other two Unionist parties are boycotting the talks, and without the UUP the republicans may feel that the British and Irish Governments might impose a settlement more likely to lead to their goal of a united Ireland.

"The republicans' strategy is ultimately for some kind of imposed settlement," said Henry Patterson, Professor of Politics at the University of Ulster, who is about to publish a history of the IRA called *The Politics of Illusion*. "They tend to believe that, in the broader Protestant community, there's a constituency that will tolerate a move towards joint sovereignty for the sake of peace."

The Sinn Fein leadership could have been reassuring hardliners in a divided republican movement that its espousal of the Mitchell principles was meaningless. *An Phoblacht* has been controlled by Mr Adams's allies since 1979 and has long been used to signal shifts in strategy. It is inconceivable that he was unaware of the interview, which was trumpeted across the front page and faxed to news organisations, or that a man so shrewd could not have realised its impact.

Supporting the idea that the IRA effectively ordered its political wing to publish the interview was the evident discomfort of the Sinn Fein spokesmen called on to defend it. The interview undermined the newspaper's own editorial, which said that by avoiding talks, Unionists would jeopardise "the best chance of peace this country has seen in many generations". A source close to Sinn Fein suggested the party leadership was unhappy about the timing because it had switched media attention away from the UUP's big decision and onto Sinn Fein at a crucial moment.

Dr Patterson said it would have been "politically impossible" for Sinn Fein to have refused the article if the IRA insisted because "you would be talking about an effective split".

Paul Bew, Professor of Politics at Queens University, saw the interview as a direct rebuff to Tony Blair's declaration on Monday that the Government would hold Sinn Fein rigidly to the Mitchell principles. "If they are locked into the process as defined by Mitchell they are trapped. They have therefore to indicate that they are not playing by the rules of the game."

Micheal Mac Donncha, *An Phoblacht*'s editor, would cast no light on the mystery. He declined to comment, referring all questions to the Sinn Fein press office.

Mary Robinson at her presidential home in Dublin

Robinson bows out as she began

By Audrey Magee

MARY ROBINSON ends her seven-year term as President of the Irish Republic today as she began — looking after the less fortunate.

The President will open a housing project for the homeless in Dublin before returning to Aras an Uachtarain, the presidential home in Phoenix Park, to sign her letters of resignation. She will then fly to Geneva to take up her new position as United Nations Human Rights Commissioner.

Mrs Robinson's seven-year term was not without its its critics, but to community, women's and human rights groups she is irreplaceable. They believe she fulfilled the promise she made in her 1990 inaugural speech when she said she would open the doors of the presidential home to the marginalised and deprived in society.

Lorna Siggins, author of an unofficial biography launched in Dublin last night, said she kept her promises at a time of great social change in Ireland and rapid economic growth.

Mrs Robinson, 52, moved easily between local, national and international issues, highlighting the plight of famine-stricken Somalia and the chaos of Rwanda. She was as comfortable among the Protestant women of Belfast's Loyalist Shankill Road as she was with the Queen during her visit to London.

Clark: Tory history

'Predicting death of Princess was creepy'

By Damian Whitworth

ALAN CLARK spoke yesterday of his horror at hearing of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, three weeks after he had predicted it.

Mr Clark, MP for Kensington and Chelsea, wrote an article in *The Spectator* last month in which he said the death of the Labour MP Gordon McMaster and the suicide of Lady Green and Lady Caithness were directly related to press harassment and the Princess was the "ultimate trophy".

He heard the news of her death when he arrived back from a fishing trip in Scotland. "I was horrified when I heard the news. It was very, very creepy. To come within three weeks of predicting it was very creepy," he said, but added: "I don't see why I should feel terrible about it. It's a fairly medieval precept to believe that people who predict things actually cause them to happen."

At the time he had been furious that Frank Johnson, Editor of *The Spectator*, had written the Princess into the copy by name. "It was obvious who I meant but it was monstrous to do that."

Mr Clark was speaking at the launch of his television series on the history of the Conservative Party. Amid the grandeur of the Carlton Club ("a sort of Tory Party works canteen" as he put it) Mr Clark was determined to keep on his acdemic hat at a screening of the first episode of his four-part series, *Alan Clark's History of the Tory Party*.

He pointed out that the final episode, covering the leadership of Margaret Thatcher and John Major, would be shown on the Sunday of the Tory party conference. The programme would clearly come as a shock to many. While he refused to reveal details he made it clear that there was no more of the adoration of Baroness Thatcher and the analysis of her sex appeal that had filled his diaries.

Instead, there would be a scholar's clinical appraisal of her place in a long history: "If you want sleaze or scandal or accusations, forget it. Don't switch on the TV or buy the book," he said.

Buying the book will be tricky. Mr Clark started work three years ago but while it had been planned to coincide with the television series he admitted yesterday that it is far from finished.

"In a sense it will never be finished," he sighed. "But it has to be. It's just that there's such a wealth of material and I want this to be a book that will be on the shelves of every university and school library."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Register will warn of failed research

A worldwide register for failed medical research will be launched in Britain today to save time, money and patients being subjected to clinical trials of treatment already known to be useless. The idea, backed by 100 medical journals around the world, came from Ian Roberts, of the Institute of Child Health in London.

The *British Medical Journal* and *The Lancet* today urge clinical investigators to publish their failures as well as their successes. Their latest editions carry forms to enable anyone who knows of an unpublished trial to send in information for an Internet site. "Researchers are three times more likely to publish their good news than their bad," Dr Roberts said.

Stalker gets life

A sex stalker who subjected women students in Glasgow's West End to a four-year reign of terror was jailed for life yesterday. Grant McCaskill, of Parkhead, Glasgow, pleaded guilty to six charges of indecent assault and a further two charges of "Peeping Tom" breach of the peace charges. Nine other sex charges were dropped.

Dentist cleared

Mark Draper, 37, a dentist of Camden Town, northwest London, was acquitted of 12 charges of indecently assaulting patients by tweaking their nipples. At his retrial at Kingston Crown Court, the jury found him not guilty on seven charges but could not agree on five others on which the prosecution offered no further evidence.

Orimulsion off

National Power abandoned plans to use orimulsion — dubbed the world's filthiest fuel. The company planned to import and burn up to 6 million tonnes of the Venezuelan fuel in Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, creating 1,600 jobs. Environmentalists said an orimulsion spillage would be more difficult to clear than crude oil.

Faithful unite

The first purpose-built school for Anglicans and Roman Catholics in England opened yesterday. Emmaus School is a tangible sign of the unity fostered on Merseyside by Bishop David Sheppard and the late Archbishop Derek Worlock. The school's emblem is a silver scallop shell with a cross, symbols of Christianity and pilgrimage.

Arsonist detained

A teenager who started 140 fires over six months was sentenced to indefinite detention yesterday. Darren Marklew, 16, of Kirby in Ashfield, got a thrill watching firefighters tackle the fires he had started, Nottingham Crown Court was told. He had pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to arson with reckless disregard for life.

Biting the bullet

A batch of 34,000 plastic rounds used by security forces in Ulster has been withdrawn as too heavy, three months after an earlier batch was withdrawn. Inspection procedures have been introduced to ensure that plastic rounds made in current and future contracts conform exactly to specification, said the Ministry of Defence.

No change, in the terrorists' own words

THE interview in *An Phoblacht (Republican News)* is described as an assessment of the political climate by a spokesperson for the IRA leadership. *Below are excerpts.*

An Phoblacht: What were the key factors or changes which influenced the decision to restore the ceasefire?

IRA: Our announcement of a restoration of the cessation did appear to catch most political commentators on the hop. But then many of these commentators regularly call it wrong, particularly with regard to our position. The key elements were that the new British Government moved with some speed to deal with the need for all-inclusive negotiations and the new Fianna Fail-led Government in the South moved to help to put a peace process back on the rails from an Irish point of view.

The new British Government removed the precondition of decommissioning, they set a timeframe for substantive talks, they made it clear that such talks would be substantive and inclusive and that bilateral meetings would start almost immediately after any announcement of an IRA cessation. They also gave public commitments to move on a series of confidence-building measures, including PoWs, the Irish language and issues of equality of treatment.

An Phoblacht: Sinn Fein have affirmed the Mitchell principles. Do you have a view on that?

IRA: Sinn Fein's stated commitment is to secure a peace settlement that both removes the causes of conflict and takes all the guns, British, republican, Unionist, nationalist and loyalist, out of Irish politics. The Sinn Fein position actually goes beyond the Mitchell principles. Their affirmation of these principles is therefore quite compatible with their position.

As to the IRA's attitude to the Mitchell principles per se, well, the IRA would have problems with sections of the Mitchell principles. But then the IRA is not a participant in these talks.

An Phoblacht: Is there confusion as to the republican version of consent?

IRA: Any consent requirement must be defined within the context of British withdrawal and encompass all the people of Ireland. The idea that a minority grouping in Ireland, situated within the six counties, should have a veto over political progress in the island as a whole is anathema to republicans.

An Phoblacht: In the past the IRA have said there will be no decommissioning. Has your position changed in any way with regard to this?

IRA: No, our position on decommissioning has not changed in any way. I don't think anyone has ever realistically expected us to agree to decommissioning this side of a political settlement.

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Academy to keep Hindley portrait

By Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent

THE controversial portrait of the Moors murderer Myra Hindley made from children's handprints will not be withdrawn from an exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, it emerged yesterday. After one of the most passionate debates in memory, academicians voted against excluding it from the show.

"It was very close," said one academician, expressing despair over the outcome after the mother of one of Hindley's victims had begged the Academy to withdraw it.

The issue of whether a bastion of tradition should have staged an exhibition featuring blood, dismembered limbs and the Hindley portrait ensured that the debate lasted almost three hours. An official announcement will be made on Tuesday.

About 40 of the 90 RAs attended the general assembly meeting behind closed doors in Burlington House. One of them later expressed surprise that they had seemed so equally divided. Most of the discussion centred on the Hindley portrait by Marcus Harvey.

Works loaned to the exhibition, called Sensation, which opens on September 18, have been loaned by Charles Saatchi, the country's most prominent collector of contemporary art.

Old school academicians have been outraged by the inclusion of sculptures such as the Chapman brothers' dismembered, bloody limbs, torso and head of a mutilated corpse. Among the most fervent critics is Peter Coker, who earlier called for the resignation of Philip Dowson, the academy's president; David Gordon, the secretary, and Norman Rosenthal, the exhibitions secretary.

Richard Morrison, page 31

Prescott urges Wales to give convincing vote for assembly

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

JOHN PRESCOTT, the Deputy Prime Minister, last night appealed to the Welsh people to vote "Yes" in next week's referendum on the creation of a Welsh assembly.

The Government is confident that a convincing vote in Scotland on devolution will boost support for a Welsh Assembly, and Mr Prescott last night told the Welsh that they too should vote for their own identity and voice.

At a rally of 700 supporters of a Welsh assembly, in Llantrisant, near Cardiff, he led the Government's attempt to galvanise the Welsh vote amid some concern that the result could be narrow and that the turnout low.

In a rousing speech Mr Prescott dismissed notions that devolution was about the break-up of the UK but about bringing power to the people. He said the issue was "not one of Wales versus England in a frenzy of naked nationalism", but about accountability. The Government wanted accountability for the English regions too, he said; for people to be closer to the decisions which affect their daily lives.

He made a special plea for people to go out to vote on "this crucial debate" and warned: "Don't let those voices carping from the sidelines claim any satisfaction from a low turnout. This referendum is about a democratic assembly — every democrat hs a responsibility to vote."

He also appeared to answer some of the criticisms of Welsh Labour MPs over devolution and said an assembly would end the quangocracy of Wales and that his intention was for the English regions also to benefit from decentralisation.

The crowd were entertained by a 1960s rock and roll band with Kim Howells, the junior Education and Employment Minister, and MP for Pontypridd, acting as master of ceremonies.

Mr Prescott's visit to Wales yesterday triggered the final build-up for campaigners in advance of the referendum vote next Thursday. Tony Blair is expected next week as well as other Cabinet ministers. Mr Prescott had to abandon plans to campaign on the ground in Wales and after the rally flew straight to Heathrow for a trip to India where he will represent the Government at the funeral of Mother Teresa.

Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, at a rally in Llanelli last night also urged the Welsh to join the Scots in a blazing trail of political reform.

Ron Davies, Welsh Secretary, earlier yesterday attempted to clarify the future relations for Wales with the European Community after Denzil Davies, one of the Welsh Labour MPs critical of the assembly proposals, had suggested that in future Wales would have no voice in Europe on economic and agricultural negotiations.

The Welsh Secretary quashed claims that Wales would have no access to the Council of Ministers if an assembly took over the role of the Welsh Office and suggested that members would be able to take part in negotiations on policy at all levels.

The blazing toast of New York

Angry wife demands chef and butler in divorce deal, as wealthy life has 'left her unable to cook'. **Tunku Varadarajan** reports

Alec Wildenstein: he is now banned from his own apartment, and from talking to his estranged wife

A GLAMOROUS wife who has been the toast of New York is demanding that New York's divorce court makes sure she has the money to make toast. Jocelyn Wildenstein wants the services of a chef and a butler as part of her settlement from a billionaire art dealer, saying that her life in a gilded cage has left her unprepared for domestic chores such as lighting a stove and, especially, making toast.

"She would burn the toast every morning if she were on her own," said her lawyer. The voluptuous Mrs Wildenstein, 52, who found her 57-year-old husband Alec in bed with a winsome 19-year-old, is suing for living expenses of about £130,000 a month, in addition to their townhouse on the Upper East Side, not to mention their 150-year-old castle outside Paris, their 66,000-acre ranch in Kenya, their stables in France, their Gulfstream jet and, particularly, the staggering ensemble of masterpieces the Wildenstein family has acquired since they began dealing in art at the turn of the century.

In Manhattan's nastiest divorce case, Wildenstein versus Wildenstein has put Broadway in the shade this week. Acerbic, vitriolic, high-powered and reeking of money, the case pits the aggressive Mr Wildenstien, arguably New York's best-known art dealer, against the wife described recently by one gossip columnist described recently as having "finest pins in Manhattan".

Although their marriage has been described as "consistently loveless", the rupture was relatively recent. On September 3, Mrs Wildenstein, "jet-lagged and dying for a hot bath", returned from Kenya to find her husband in bed with the 19-year-old.

It appears that she might have had an inkling of her husband's infidelity, for she entered their apartment in the company of two burly bodyguards.

Mr Wildenstein pulled a gun on the trio, shouting loudly that they "did not belong" in his bedroom. The bodyguards, acting with commendable alacrity, dialled the police, who arrived within minutes.

Mr Wildenstein was arrested for threatening behaviour, hauled before a magistrate, and bound over to keep the peace. He cannot now enter his apartment, nor talk to his wife.

The latter, said to be "heart-broken", promptly sued for divorce on the grounds of adultery. Responding through his lawyer, Raoul Felder, Mr Wildenstein raged that he had been "set up", calling his wife "an hysterical individual standing there with a pair of scissors, ready to destroy me and my art collection".

Addressing the court, Mrs Wildenstein's lawyer told of a "conspiracy to bludgeon" his client, detailing how her money had been cut off, her chauffeured limousine grounded, her credit cards blocked, her bank accounts sequestered, and her butler and chef withdrawn. He said: "She may live in a luxurious townhouse, but to her it's a prison.

"She doesn't even have keys to the cupboards. She no longer has her staff. She doesn't even have access to the kitchen."

At this point the judge, Marilyn Diamond, interjected gently: "She could, perhaps, get a microwave." But showing, as the *Daily News* put it, that "Judge Diamond is a girl's best friend", the judge has ordered Mr Wildenstein to restore his wife's "allowances and basic amenities" as an interim measure.

Mrs Wildenstein appeared in a tight black suit, cut above the knee, with a vivid gold neck-choker. Mr Wildenstein was in a dark suit.

BOLIVAR ARELLANO

Jocelyn Wildenstein: she found her husband in bed with a 19-year-old

The heated dinners of Britain

By Damian Whitworth

WHILE Jocelyn Wildenstein denied all knowledge of cooking yesterday, a survey gave a portrait of life at British dinner parties where the hostesses have not been so fortunate as to marry a billionaire. A quarter were said to have become so traumatised by entertaining that they resorted to hurling objects around the kitchen and arguing with their partners in front of guests.

Tension over who should do the cooking accounts for 29 per cent of all rows, with 74 per cent of women feeling aggrieved for bearing the brunt of the work. Criticism of the cooking was a major cause of contention for 34 per cent, and flirting with female guests led to arguments for 35 per cent.

Arguments had resulted in physical blows for 13 per cent of couples. A quarter of women claimed to have thrown kitchen objects, 29 per cent had stormed out and 24 per cent had gone to bed leaving partners at the stove.

One in five hosts admitting to passing off ready-prepared meals as their own. Southerners, especially in London, were the most likely to lie, while those in the North East spent the most time concocting special meals. The average cost of a dinner party for six ranged from £51 to £75, although 15 per cent of Londoners claimed to spend more than £100 on food and drink. In the North East, the cost was £76-£100. In Scotland, it was said to be £21-£30.

A third of men said that they did the cooking, and were the more adventurous; a quarter claimed that they would prefer to serve ostrich or bison rather than chicken, pork, beef and rabbit. Two thirds of women said they preferred to stick to favourite recipes.

The NOP findings were based on interviews with more 800 adults. Jill Rawlins, a spokeswoman for the supermarket chain Somerfield, which commissioned the survey, said: "Most people enjoy being invited into other people's homes, but when it comes to repaying the favour, catering for friends is actually very stressful."

Removal firm sold couple's furniture in error

By Michael Horsnell

GEORGE BULLOCK always dreamt of retiring to the lush pastures of the Loire Valley with his wife, Sylvia, after hanging up his brushes as a painter and decorator. A £30,000 converted barn in the village of St Clement de la Place, near Angers, provided the perfect haven.

The only thing that Mr Bullock, 83, and his wife, 65, have missed about their home in Harvington, Hereford and Worcester, for the past three months has been the furniture and a large quantity of their possessions.

The removal firm that was paid £2,000 to ship out their belongings mistakenly sent one of the four containers for auction. The couple have been left without dining table and chairs, three-piece suite, crockery, cutlery, table linen, clothing, music centre, coffee tables, farewell presents and an antique glass cabinet.

Mrs Bullock said yesterday: "We have to sit at a garden table and chairs, and eat from a picnic set. The neighbours have been very good to us but we can't even ask them in for coffee because we've only got plastic cups."

Mrs Bullock, who puts the couple's losses at £5,000, has so far received a cheque for £1,500. She was told that the contents of the container were mistakenly attributed to another client of the removal firm, and sold to cover a bad debt. The removal firm, Burke Brothers of Wolverhampton, has admitted the blunder. Chris Burke, of the firm, said: "We have apologised to the family many times. A loss adjuster is flying out to France to agree a settlement with them on our behalf and we are trying to track down who bought the goods."

John Ridgeway, of Perry and Phillips, auctioneers in Bridgnorth, said: "We have done our best to find the buyers and have retrieved a statue of an eagle and slides which I took out because they looked to be personal to the family. Unfortunately the furniture and larger items were sold to trade and we have not been able to trace them."

Penguins seek a new pool and lots of sprats

By Simon de Bruxelles

One of the Dorset penguins to be sold

BIRD-LOVERS are being given the rare chance to pick up a penguin — or even a whole colony. They are among the attractions of a Dorset bird garden that is closing next month.

Kevin Martin, the garden's owner, is selling all 2,000 birds, from flamingos and snowy owls to budgerigars and doves. The once-thriving Merley Bird Garden near Wimborne has lost out to competition from theme parks.

Would-be bidders turning up with a bird cage should be warned: not all the lots will thrive in a living room or garden pond and some may eat potential purchasers out of house and home.

Penguins can gobble down dozens of fish a day and Chilean flamingos need a bit more leg-room than the average pet. The flamingos and blue and gold macaws are worth up to £1,000 each. But the 50 Humbolt penguins could sell for much less than the normal £900 a head if they are bought as a job lot.

For those wanting something cheaper, there are hand-tamed African grey parrots for about £500, a snowy and an eagle owl at about £250 each, and 500 budgies at pocket money prices. Mr Martin, 37, expects the budgies to end up in private homes while the more exotic birds will go to private collectors.

"In the 1960s this was somewhere for people to bring their children to play in the park grounds, look at the birds and have lunch," Mr Martin said. "Now most country pubs have playgrounds and some even have bird collections. We used to be one of the few tourist attractions in the area with 150,000 visitors a year. We're down to about 50,000 now. The last straw was a burglary in March. They got away with £20,000 worth of parrots.

"All the birds have to go, so there are no reserve prices. The collection is valued at £50,000 but if it goes for £15,000 I'll be pleased. There will certainly be a few bargains. But if strangers turn up wanting a penguin we'll be asking a few questions. We don't want people trying to keep them in the bath."

The garden will open its gates for the last time on October 19 and the auction will take place three days later, with RSPCA inspectors on hand to advise potential buyers. None of the birds at Merley requires a special licence to own although some are more demanding than others. Mr Martin is hoping his penguins will be bought by another wildlife park rather than someone wanting and exotic pet. They require a pool, a lot of company and an endless supply of sprats.

Julie Briggs, for the RSPCA, said: "Birds like flamingos and penguins need a very special environment and if a would-be owner can't provide it they should not get involved in trying to care for them."

Pigeon returns home in display of Yorkshire grit

Paul Wilkinson on a prized bird's epic journey

A HOMING PIGEON has proved that stamina runs in the family by flying more than 1,500 miles from the southern tip of Spain. The bird's father, Bluey, achieved celebrity two years ago when it walked 60 miles home after being kidnapped and having its wings clipped.

The two-year-old marathon bird, who had been taken to Algeciras by a Spanish pigeon-fancier, fluttered wearily into the loft of Dino Reardon, 66, in Skipton, North Yorkshire, on Saturday. The Spaniard had contacted Mr Reardon in April while on holiday after reading about Bluey and had taken the bird home with him.

Mr Reardon identified the bird by its leg ring. He said: "She was thin, bedraggled, under-nourished and completely worn out. I couldn't believe it was her at first. I have kept pigeons for many years and in my experience this is one of the longest trips that a pigeon has ever taken. But I might have expected it — after all she is the daughter of Bluey and he is pretty incredible.

"She must have escaped and flown all the way back. I don't know how long the journey took because I don't know how to contact the Spaniard."

Mr Reardon said that as the bird had arrived home on the day of the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, he had named it Diana in tribute to her. "Diana was a gutsy woman who showed enormous determination and this pigeon has the same qualities to travel such a distance."

Major Edward Camilleri, of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, thought it could have taken five days. He said: "Racing pigeons make long journeys, but this is unusual. It's quite a feat and it must be a bloody good pigeon."

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Jailed Briton given date for arms trial

Michael Evans on a dealer who claims to have been working for British intelligence when he was arrested by the Indian authorities

A BRITISH arms dealer who has spent almost two years in jail without trial appeared in a Calcutta court yesterday charged with the capital offence of "waging war against India".

Peter Bleach, who is conducting his own defence, was given a trial date of September 29. He pleaded not guilty to the main charge and to four other charges under India's Aircrafts Act and Arms Act.

Mr Bleach, a 45-year-old former lance corporal in the Army Intelligence Corps, was arrested in December 1995 after a Russian Antonov 26 in which he and a crew of five Latvians and a *Dutchman* were flying, was ordered to land in Bombay. They were accused of dropping arms, including 500 AK47 assault rifles, 250,000 rounds of ammunition and *anti-tank* grenades, to an anti-government fundamentalist Hindu group in West Bengal.

Mr Bleach says that he told the Ministry of Defence in *London of the proposed arms* drop and that he was working for British intelligence at the time of his arrest.

According to diplomatic sources, Mr Bleach says that he first approached the MoD's Defence Export Sales Organisation (DESO) and subsequently spoke to Special Branch officers in North Yorkshire, where he used to live.

Yesterday the MoD confirmed that Mr Bleach had contacted DESO in 1995. "The *information provided by* Mr Bleach was passed to the appropriate authorities within the United Kingdom," a spokeswoman said.

The Foreign Office said the *matter was now sub judice* and it was not possible to comment on the case. However, Foreign Office sources said that the information given *to the MoD by Mr Bleach had been passed* to the Indian authorities.

The diplomatic sources say that Mr Bleach claimed to have set up as a legitimate arms dealer, selling equipment to the Bangladeshi Army, when he was asked by a Danish company to deliver a large *quantity of arms* to the Indian subcontinent. He contacted the MoD after realising it was an illegal arms deal and Special Branch warned him not to continue with the *mission*.

Mr Bleach, however, has disputed this and has also said he felt it was too dangerous to back out because of his knowledge of the secret deal.

The arms, which are understood to have come from Bulgaria, were dropped in wooden crates by parachute over Purulia in West Bengal. The plane was ordered to land at Bombay after returning from a trip to Thailamd.

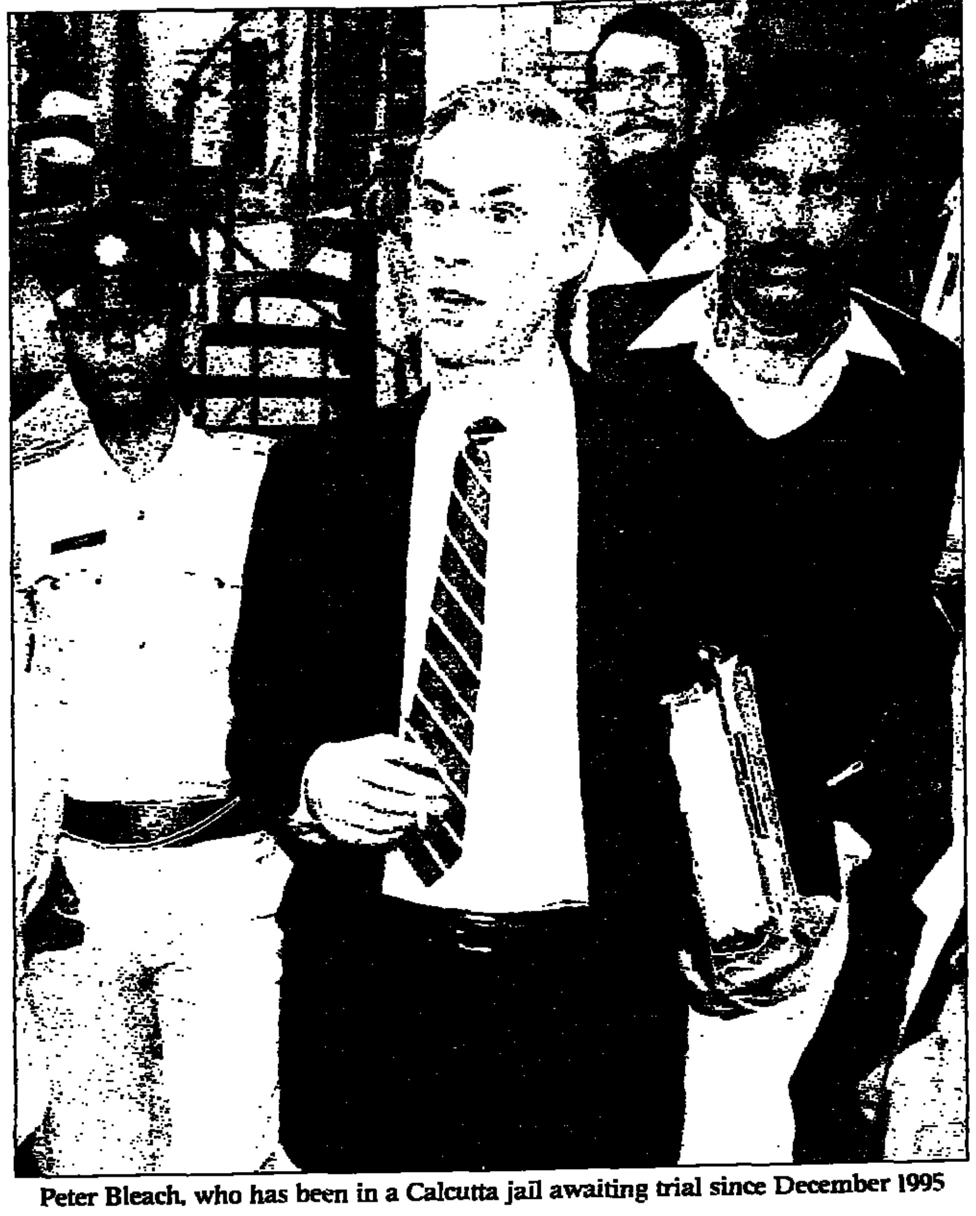
The Indian authorities said that the arms were destined for the Anand Marg Hindu fundamentalist group, which was opposed to the Communist government in West Bengal. The secret Hindu group had been founded as a welfare organisation.

Mr Bleach, who has been married three times but is now single, has been held at the Presidency prison in Calcutta since his arrest. He is charged under section 121-124 of the Indian Penal Code of waging war against India. If found guilty, he would face the death penalty or life imprisonment.

He has been visited once a month by David Belgrove, British consul in Calcutta, who attended the hearing yesterday. Mr Belgrove said that Mr Bleach was being held in a cell on his own but had been allowed personal comforts including a proper mattress, a table and chair and a typewriter. He added: "We have supplied him with legal books to help him with his defence and he is in good health."

When the trial begins, Mr Bleach is expected to name the British officials he spoke to about the proposed secret gun-running mission at a hotel in Piccadilly in September 1995.

KAMAL KISHORE



Peter Bleach, who has been in a Calcutta jail awaiting trial since December 1995

Shelley weekend aims to reclaim monster

By Mark Henderson

ACADEMICS and fans of Mary Shelley will meet today to rehabilitate the novelist's most famous creation, *Frankenstein's* monster.

Delegates at a conference in Cambridge to commemorate the bicentenary of Shelley's birth hope to change the popular image of the character, which they say has been destroyed by film portrayals.

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, published in 1818, presented Dr Victor Frankenstein's creature as an innocent who turns to violence as a response to a world that rejects him, rather than the inately evil Hammer Horror character that lives in the public's imagination.

Nora Crook, Reader in English at Anglia Polytechnic University in Cambridge, who is organising the conference, said film versions of the creature had distorted one of the powerful moral stories of the 19th century.She said: "Of course the creature has to be terrifying, but it is important that he is also articulate, aware and sensitive, not the slow, dim-witted and dumb character we see in the films."

The monster has appeared in more than 110 films, beginning with Boris Karloff's famous portrayal in James Whale's 1931 *Frankenstein*. Robert De Niro was the most recent monster, starring in Kenneth Branagh's 1994 film *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*.

Toby Venables, a librarian at St John's College, Cambridge, said the novel's subtle treatment of nature and nurture was lost in the films and hence in public perception. "Frankenstein's monster is effectively a kid from a bad home who needed a good social worker to set him straight," he said.

"He is not born evil, as the result of a bungled experiment with a criminal brain as we are often led to believe. It is after Frankenstein has succeeded that he goes wrong, abandoning the creature and treating it badly.

"It is a failure of his humanity not of his science which turns the creature into a monster."

£20m puts shine on Sheffield facelift

By Joanna Bale

FUNDING worth £36.5 million will go towards revitalising Sheffield city centre and an historic dockyard in Kent, it was announced yesterday.

Sheffield will benefit from a £20.5 million grant from the Millenium Commission and Chatham Dockyard has received a £16 million package, most of which comes from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Sheffield won the money for the Remaking the Heart of the City project and plans that include a Winter Garden, an art gallery and three public squares. The project will cost £120 million when complete and 1,800 jobs will be created.

CORRECTION

A report (July 2) was wrong to suggest that Dr Maria Cristina Baldacci advocates sterilisation of the handicapped: neither she nor the Roman Catholic Church has ever endorsed eugenic policies. The report should also have made clear that Dr Baldacci is herself handicapped.

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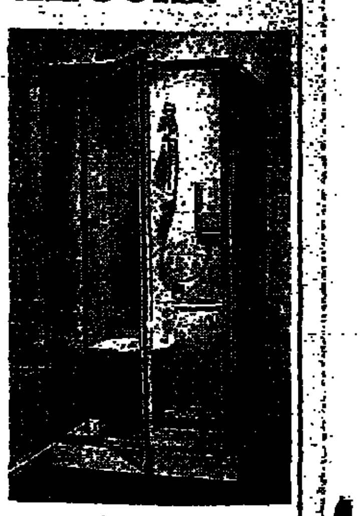

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Photographers' lawyers want charges dropped

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

LAWYERS for the photographers who were pursuing Diana, Princess of Wales when her car crashed called yesterday for the manslaughter charges against them to be dropped after the confirmation that the chauffeur was unfit to drive.

In the past 48 hours the focus of the French judicial investigation has shifted from the paparazzi to Henri Paul, the deputy security director of the Paris Ritz, who was allowed to drive the car despite having drunk a large quantity of alcohol and taken powerful drugs.

It was disclosed on Tuesday that tests on M Paul's body had found traces of the anti-depressant Prozac and the sedative tiapride, a drug most often used to treat chronic alcoholics. Yesterday *Le Parisien* newspaper reported that some *members of the Ritz staff* "knew about this treatment" and "had just warned the management about it".

Since the latest findings, investigators have interviewed more than 30 employees at the Ritz, owned by Mohamed Al Fayed. If it can be proved that the management of the hotel was aware of M Paul's intoxicated state, or knew that he may have had a drink problem, they could face prosecution for negligence or endangering life.

Lawyers representing the nine photographers and one motorcycle rider placed under investigation last week said they believed that the men would not face prosecution after the latest tests, although they added that they did not expect that *the charges would be dropped* immediately.

Jean-Louis Pelletier, lawyer for one of the photographers, said: "Alcohol, antidepressants, excessive speed — in any other case than this, the driver, if he had survived, would have been prosecuted, punished, and punished severely."

The photographers say that they were some distance behind the car when it crashed. While the most serious charge of manslaughter appears likely to be dropped, they may still face the lesser charge of "failing to help persons in danger".

One unnamed Ritz employee, who has been interviewed by police, told *Libération* newspaper that he had seen M Paul drink two *glasses of pastis in one of the hotel* bars before he got behind the wheel of the Mercedes limousine.

Even if M Paul successfully masked his intoxication on the night of the crash, there are still unanswered questions over whether Ritz security staff, responsible for protecting and driving the Princess and her boyfriend, Dodi Fayed, were given regular health checks.

Michael Cole, Mr Al Fayed's spokesman, insisted that had M Paul given "any hint of being an alcoholic he would have been summarily dismissed". The family of M Paul and the Al Fayeds have called for another post-mortem examination. Giselle Paul, the driv*er's mother, denied that he was an* alcoholic or suffered from depression. "Can one imagine that the Princess of Wales and Dodi Fayed would have agreed to get into a car driven by someone who was drunk?" she said.

Police have carried out a search of M Paul's home in Paris in an effort to find out how long he had been taking Prozac and tiapride. His doctor in Paris was being interviewed by police yesterday.

The initial post-mortem examination showed that M Paul had eaten no food on *the night* of the accident. Three blood tests indicated that he had drunk the equivalent of at least nine measures of liquor.

Jacques Langevin, a prizewinning war photographer and one of those under investigation, said that *M Paul had been showing* off to photographers and behaving out of character before he drove off with the couple from the back door of the Ritz. "He came several times during the evening to strut about in front of them. He was playing the show-off. It seems that usually he had a serious air."

One of Mr Al Fayed's lawyers has agreed that M Paul was in no state to drive, but yesterday he insisted that the pack of photographers was still primarily at fault. Bernard Dertevelle said that the Ritz bore *no responsibility*. "Paul took the initiative to take the wheel," he said. "Nothing in his behaviour would have led *one to* believe he was so saturated with drink."

Georges Kiejman, another of Mr Al Fayed's lawyers, said: "The *blood test does not* interest me — the chase does."

One of the magistrates in charge of the case predicted *yesterday* that it would take months to resolve, saying that to complete it by June of next year would be an *"excellent* result".

Charities lose cash to memorial fund

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING charity whose patron is the Duke of Edinburgh *said yesterday that the* flood of public donations to the Diana, *Princess of Wales Memorial Fund would do* "deep and lasting" damage to other charities by diverting money away from them.

Action Research, a medical research charity for serious disabling diseases, said that the spontaneous and "euphoric" reaction of the public to the memorial fund had already led to a fall in its own income. The memorial fund has been receiving hundreds of thousands of pounds a day.

Anne Luther, Action Research's director general, said: "This could be a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. This desire to give, to be associated with a 'suitable memorial' to Diana and the work she accomplished is understandable — we will all *miss her deeply. But how* many people will redirect their charity giving away from their *usual and perhaps smaller* chosen charities?"

In respect for the Princess, Action Research postponed a fundraising sports event planned for last Saturday in Northern Ireland. A volunteer planning to raise money in the London marathon is now giving the cash to the memorial fund instead, and a local fundraising event organised for its benefit is to give half the proceeds to the fund. Ms Luther said: "Several other organisations are worried about this."

Barry Brooking, chief executive of the Parkinson's Disease Society, where the Princess was patron until her divorce, said he believed that there was a finite amount of money available for charities; if people gave to the memorial fund, other charities might *suffer: "We received several* donations immediately after the Princess's death from *people wanting to make gifts* in her memory, but they dried up as soon as the memorial *fund was announced."*

However, other charities believe that the growing public awareness about the extent of the Princess's commitment to charitable work may create a new climate of giving and selflessness in the long term, which could increase overall donations to charity.

A spokeswoman for Save the Children said: "We feel that, in the longer term, the spontaneous and generous response of the public could lead to a greater wish to give."

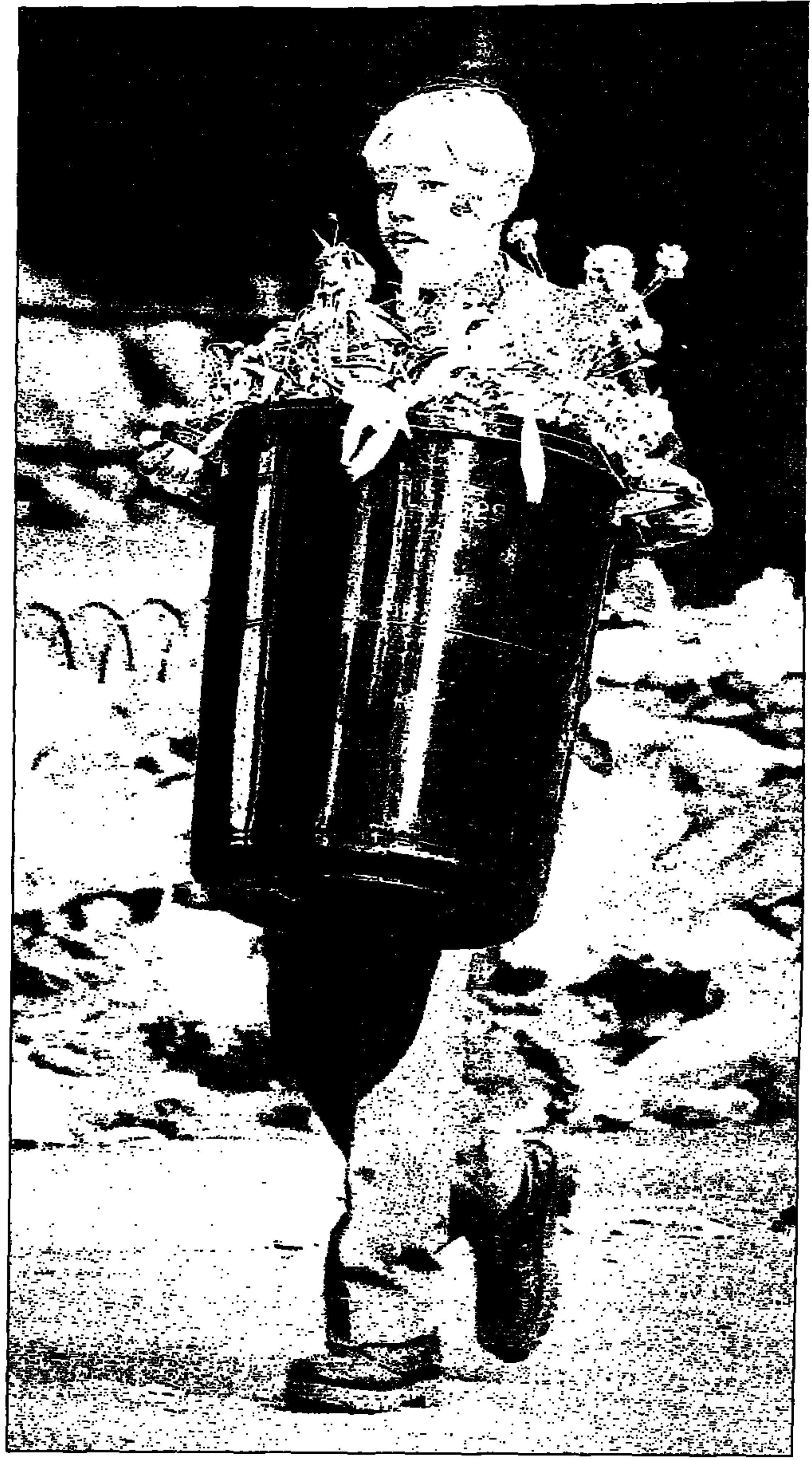
The charity, which had no formal links with the Princess, had received a number of donations in her memory. The British Red Cross, which received £250,000, said: "It may encourage people to take more *interest in charities.*"

☐ Elton John has refused to allow the BBC and ITN to use *his rendition of Candle in the Wind* in funeral videos, saying all the money should be given to *the memorial fund*. The television networks say they will make no profit, but cannot speak for retailers.

Earl Spencer, left, met *Gordon Brown yesterday*, and agreed that there should be no rush into decisions on a permanent memorial to the Princess's life and work. The Chancellor, who is chairing a group that will consider ideas, said that the meeting at Downing Street had gone "very well". Lord Spencer, the Princess's brother, urged Mr Brown to hold the "utmost public consultation" before any final decisions were made. Mr Brown had earlier said it was important to "consider what is a fitting national memorial and to listen to what the country is saying on this".

☐ St James's Palace confirmed yesterday that the Prince of Wales had taken his sons back to school. Prince William, 15, is at Eton and Prince Harry, 12, is at Ludgrove.

Lady Mountbatten, page 17
Philip Howard, page 18
Leading article
and Letters, page 19
Caitlin Moran, page 33



GREG BOS

Adam Hardham, a London Scout, carries away faded blooms from St James's Palace

Scouts and Guides lead flower clean-up

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

SCOUTS and Guides led volunteer helpers in Britain's most melancholy clean-up op*eration yesterday* as they began removing the millions of blooms left in memory of the Princess.

The 11 teenagers joined by *40 members of the Women's Royal Voluntary* Service and staff from the Royal Parks began their sombre task at St *James's Palace. They carefully* untied and dusted down the soft toys that had been tied to trees, railings and the palace gates and stored them in cardboard boxes.

The youngsters were often close to tears as they scooped up the many thousands of poems, letters and notes of condolence. At a line of tables the flowers were sorted to see which were fresh enough to go to hospitals and old people's homes. Boxes of bouquets are to be sent to half a dozen hospitals today, including Great *Ormond Street for Children*, which was one of the Princess's favourite causes.

David Welch, chief executive of the Royal Parks, said: "We want everyone to know it will not be rushed and we will treat each tribute in the same spirit as it was left. We reckon there are 1.5 million bouquets and as many *tributes*, poems and gifts so it will be six weeks at least, depending on how many more people want to leave flowers."

Those blooms that were too decayed were tipped onto Royal Parks *vehicles and taken away* to be made into compost for Kensington Gardens, *which the Government* is considering renaming after the Princess.

The operation at *Kensington Palace*, the Princess's former home, will not begin until next week, as many more families are expected to visit the carpet of flowers outside this weekend and leave their tributes, causing yet more travel chaos.

Tourists jailed for theft of 'souvenirs'

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

TWO Slovakian holidaymakers who stole teddy bears and flowers from outside Westminster Abbey were each jailed for 28 days yesterday.

Roger Davies, *the magistrate*, told Maria Rigociova, 54, and Agnesa Sihelska, 50, that the offences would not normally result in custody but he had a duty to reflect the outrage felt by the public.

The two women, who were due to return home today, had gathered 11 teddy bears, baskets of imitation flowers and candle pots as "souvenirs" for their families. They were arrested early yesterday after police officers were alerted by a passer-by.

Rigociova and Sihelska, who are both married, said *they had taken the souvenirs* as mementoes. They had thought the teddy bears would be *thrown away*.

Nazir Afzal, for the prosecution, said: "This is not far off *the 18th*-century offence of grave-robbing. The court is aware of the sense of revulsion felt by the public."

Philip Hill, for the defence, said that in Slovakia it was a custom for people to take mementoes from on top of graves after *funerals as keepsakes* and for other funerals.

The two women looked *dazed as they left the* court accompanied by their interpreter. They are to appeal today. On Wednesday Fabio Piras, a Sardinian, was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment for stealing a teddy bear from St James's Palace. The sentence was later reduced to a £100 fine.

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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

Soccer clubs told how to spot a winner

REPORTS BY NIGEL HAWKES AND NICK NUTTALL

FOOTBALL clubs with huge sums to spend in the transfer market should follow the lead of big business and use psychological profiling to ensure they get the right man for the job, researchers said yesterday.

The practice could help them to avoid paying millions of pounds for players who turned out to be lazy, disruptive or simply unable to fit in with their team-mates, according to George Sik, a psychologist at one of Britain's leading psychometric testing firms.

Dr Sik said that most managers were still relying on primitive methods to select players, such as reports from scouts. But the need for profiling was becoming more important with the influx of overseas players, whose personalities were largely unknown. "Obviously footballing talent is important," he said. "But as many managers say, there is not much to divide players at the top level. So temperament is very important."

Mr Penalty: England's Gareth Southgate

Dr Sik's psychological study of 60 professional footballers has identified very different kinds of temperament. These include "Mr Penalty", the kind of player most likely to miss a crucial spot kick. "He likes to plan ahead rather than be rushed into things, is sensitive to criticism and is more pessimistic than optimistic."

Unfortunately this type is also team-spirited and will volunteer despite being totally unsuitable for the job. Asked if the profile was based on Gareth Southgate, whose missed penalty put England out of Euro 96 in the semifinal, Dr Sik said: "You would not be far off the mark."

He also cited Chris Waddle, now manager of Burnley, who declined to take penalties after missing one in the 1990 World Cup finals. This contrasts with Stuart Pearce, who missed a penalty in the same tournament but remained optimistic and confidently scored one in a Euro 96 penalty shootout.

Dr Sik described another temperament, "Bad Boy", who could become a disruptive element on a team and a source of anger and anxiety for managers. Such a player tended to be highly talented, but lazy, and could move from club to club for millions of pounds without managers understanding why he never fitted in.

"He is also tense, pessimistic and sensitive to criticism. But crucially hates demanding and punishing excercise. Managers tend not to like people who profess openly that they do not like training. The player does not fit in."

He would not be drawn on which players fitted the "Bad Boy" profile. But pundits might point to Stan Collymore, a highly talented player who became unsettled at Nottingham Forest and spent two troubled seasons at Liverpool before moving on to Aston Villa. In just two seasons he commanded more than £15 million in transfer fees.

Dr Sik, of Saville and Holdsworth, carried out his research at clubs including Glasgow Celtic, Sheffield United and Crystal Palace. The psychologist said: "It is very apparent that the old 'Get your heads stuck in' school of management is unlikely to get good results." Big business recognised this and had for many years carried out psychological profiling of prospective employees.

MICHAEL POWELL

George Sik after his lecture on how football can benefit from psychological profiling

50 YEARS BEHIND THE TIMES

DESPITE the rhetoric about needing to innovate or die, most companies are still 50 years behind the times, the meeting was told.

A team from Sheffield University's Institute of Work Psychology investigated 120 firms and found many had no specialist personnel staff, no proper training or human resource management, no written training strategy and a low skill level. Professor Michael West said: "Everybody has the capacity to be creative at work but surprisingly little is done in practical terms to encourage this facility."

Within the NHS things were equally bad. "Many organisations are 50 years behind what organisational scientists are discussing," he said. "It is not enough to pay lip service to the idea of innovation without being prepared to do a fundamental review of how jobs are done."

Virtual reality pathway to safer surgery

A VIRTUAL reality image is to be used to lessen the risk of operations for patients and medical staff. The three-dimensional picture of the patient's body will guide the surgeon's instruments.

The method will first be used to repair aneurysms, weaknesses in the aorta which can burst with fatal results if untreated. The repair can be made using keyhole surgery, avoiding the trauma of opening the chest. But the patient has to be X-rayed on the operating table, exposing everyone in the theatre to regular doses of radiation.

Professor Peter Bell, of the University of Leicester, told the meeting that the new technique, developed with Gus Alussi of University College London, required only one X-ray by a body scanner before the operation.

This was used to create a screen image of the topography of the body and the position of the aneurysm. The aneurysm can be several inches long and is repaired by inserting a stent, a fine metal mesh which reinforces the weak point.

Within a year, surgeons at Leicester Royal Infirmary will be able to guide the stent into position by watching the 3D image. The stent will be inserted through a small incision in the groin, and the position at any moment mapped by sensors and superimposed on the virtual image of the patient.

Professor Bell said the main advantage would be to reduce radiation exposure, but the operation could also be cheaper and more accurate. The first trials of the image system will be during conventional open-chest operations.

☐ A laser scanner that can make 3D images of the body in seconds was demonstrated at the meeting by John Battle, the Science Minister. A black and white map of his face was produced by the device, developed by Duncan Hynd Associates and 3D Scanners with Surrey University.

The scanner was designed to help to produce better-fitting artificial limbs and body parts. It can also help to check healing of wounds, and may be used to direct radiotherapy more effectively.

Tutankhamun

Ancient Egypt had modern problems

MODERN man has much in common with the Ancient Egyptians. A study of mummies has found that the pharaohs and noble men and women of Egypt not only dyed their hair and pierced their ears, but often died from ailments that plague us.

Ron Snaith, a chemist and Egyptologist at Cambridge University, told the British Association: "Everyone thinks heart disease is a result of a modern lifestyle. But the Ancient Egyptians suffered from the same diseases as us, including a lot of heart disease."

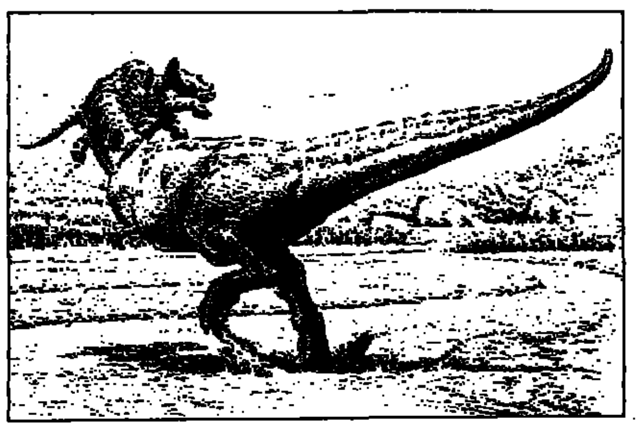
The Pharaoh Merneptah died from a massive heart attack. Lung disease, due to sand rather than smoking, and leprosy were other causes of death. "You think of leprosy as more at the time of Christ," Dr Snaith said.

The mummies also show ear-piercing and blond and reddish-dyed hair from bleaching and henna-based compounds. If someone survived birth, war and famine, he or she could expect to live until the age of 36.

Embalming was a process of desiccation akin to freeze-drying, Dr Snaith said. Embalmers were trying to mimic the extraordinary preservation powers of a shallow sandy grave by treating the body with a mineral rich in sodium carbonate.

T-rex became a monster hit with shake, rattle and roll

THE dinosaur *Tyrannosaurus rex* shook its prey into bite-size pieces between its teeth, because its diminutive arms were too small to get a grip, said a leading Russian expert. The arms were just big enough to enable it to roll itself upright after losing balance, otherwise it would have fallen flat on its face.



Shake and snack: *Tyrannosaurus rex* on the prowl

The theory that the giant dinosaur was a "shake-feeder" — biting on the prey and rattling it apart — means it had the same technique as modern creatures which have gained similar favour as movie monsters: sharks, crocodiles, and killer whales.

Theagarten Lingham-Soliar, of the Russian Academy of Sciences, said that shake-feeding provided the best explanation of how *T-rex* was a success in dismembering other animals: "It had serrated teeth, a powerful skull and neck, but the most ridiculous anterior limbs.

"It had two choices. It couldn't hold the prey in place but, if the prey were big enough, it could grab a piece of flesh and pull. The inertia of a large prey would keep it still while the flesh came away. In smaller prey, the force required to tear the flesh may be greater than the prey's inertia, so the alternative is to shake it to and fro, literally shake it apart. This places great stress on the predator's own head and neck, and requires the type of highly reinforced skull and powerful neck and body seen in *Tyrannosaurus*."

The British dinosaur expert David Norman has suggested that the heavily reinforced skull was used to ram prey with the jaws agape, but Dr Lingham-Soliar said: "This is unlikely. It would be like a human running with his mouth open at a brick wall. With the full weight of the tyrannosaur behind it, the teeth would be exposed to serious damage. In animals that ram, there is usually some reinforcement, like the 'beak' in bottle-nosed dolphins."

Tyrannosaurus was a swift runner, capable of up to 30 mph, Dr Lingham-Soliar said. While some had claimed it was a slow, lumbering beast which scavenged for food, comparison with modern-day ostriches shows many features in common, and ostriches are fast. Arguments against this include the suggestion that the bones of the creature were not strong enough to sustain a weight of up to seven tons at high speeds, but that was an oversimplification, he said.

"Other components such as cartilege, tendons, ligaments and the way in which these components and the separate bones of the leg are put together are essential to a real understanding." Thick pads of cartilege between the joints acted as shock-absorbers like those of cars.

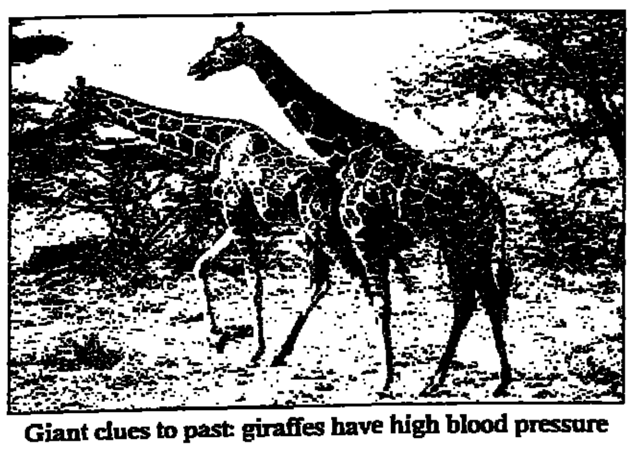
The larger vegetarian dinosaurs were ten to 20 times heavier than *Tyrannosaurus*, and reliable trackways show long migrations: "If they were able to walk, tyrannosaurs were able to run."

The arms might have been useful in mating, but they would also help the dinosaurs get up when they fell: "They were just big enough to stop then falling flat on their faces."

The rivals who fell by a neck

THEY look graceful and elegant, but giraffes have such high blood pressure that they are in danger of being martyrs to swollen ankles, the conference was told. The problem lies in coping with such a long neck, and it means that dinosaurs with far longer necks would never have been able to raise their heads to their full height.

The giraffe needs a huge heart to be able to pump blood to its brain, said Professor Tim Pedley, of Cambridge University. There were dinosaurs whose necks were three times longer than the giraffe's, such as *Diplodocus*, but if they had browsed in high trees, they would have needed hearts too enormous to fit in their bodies.



Giant clues to past: giraffes have high blood pressure

Professor Pedley said that, in fact, they never raised their necks aloft, but used them to dip their heads under water to graze on the bottom of rivers and lakes. "If they raised their heads, they would have fainted."

The giraffe's heart was 2.3 per cent of total body mass, he said, compared with only 0.5 per cent for human beings. Their central arterial blood pressure was 250mm of mercury, compared with 100mm in other mammals, including human beings. That means that pressure at the giraffe's feet was a remarkable 400mm. To prevent this causing swollen ankles, the giraffe had very tight skin around its feet, the equivalent of support stockings.

Another way of easing the problem would be if blood flow in the giraffe's neck was controlled by a siphon, as had been suggested. Then the demand on the heart would be much less. But Professor Pedley demonstrated that this could not be true. If it were, at the point where the jugular vein emerged from the skull, its pressure would be lower than atmospheric. Since the vein is flexible, it would collapse, preventing any flow.

Measurements had shown that the jugular vein pressure in giraffes is greater than atmospheric, and does not decrease with height, as it would if a siphon were operating.

So, if the animal is going to browse in high trees, it has no recourse other than to have a very powerful heart.

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Minister 'vindicated' by lesbian admission

Angela Eagle tells Polly Newton she is delighted by the response to her decision to come out

ROB BODMAN

Angela Eagle plans to make public appearances with her partner, although "it won't be in the near future"

ANGELA EAGLE, the junior minister who has come out as a lesbian, said yesterday that she had been delighted by the "incredibly positive" response.

Miss Eagle, an Environment Minister, said she had suffered some anxiety since speaking about her sexuality for the first time in a newspaper interview at the beginning of the week. "Obviously there is a little bit of stress when you are contemplating something like this, coming out. At least, so far, the optimistic side of my nature has been vindicated, which I am extremely happy about. I hope it continues."

Her office said it had received many supportive messages. Last night she disclosed that she plans to make public appearances with her partner. Speaking outside her home in her Wallasey consituency, she said: "We will step out in public at some stage, but it won't be in the near future. You have to understand that other peoples' feelings come into this."

Miss Eagle, 36, who became MP for Wallasey in 1992, issued a statement thanking her constituents for their expressions of support: "Although a new aspect of my life has been made more widely known, I have not changed. I should like to reassure my constituents that I shall be working as hard on their behalf as I have always done."

Her decision to come out as a lesbian — which makes her the first senior politician in Britain to do so — was praised by her twin sister, Maria, who was elected Labour MP for Liverpool Garston in May. She said: "This is something I have known about for a very long time and I have always been supportive of her. She is very brave," she said. "Angela is a great MP and a great sister. I don't think it is a big deal."

Don Prout, chairman of Wallasey Labour Party, said nothing would change. "We already knew about this and I think she has shown great courage. I feel her constituents and the public will only respect and admire her openness. After all, this is the 1990s, not the 1890s."

In a statement, Mr Prout acknowledged that the disclosure might cause initial shock, but said he hoped that the MP would be allowed to carry out her duties without prejudice. He said he did not believe there had been any particular reason for Miss Eagle to come out now. "It was always just a matter of time and now felt right."

In her interview with *The Independent*, Miss Eagle said she had decided to speak openly about her sexuality for the first time in order to get to grips fully with her ministerial job. "Now I am at the stage where I need to get things sorted so I can just concentrate on my work."

There was support for Miss Eagle from OutRage, the homosexual rights group, which described her decision as courageous and positive. Peter Tatchell, from the group, said: "People admire honesty in public life and Angela's openness will win her a lot of respect and support. We hope more gay MPs will follow her splendid example."

He claimed that around 60 MPs were either lesbian, gay or bisexual. "Some hold senior positions in the three main parties. There is no reason why they should remain secretive about their sexuality. That only fuels the idea that there is something shameful about being gay.

"The fear of coming out is far worse than the consequences. It certainly has not damaged the career of Chris Smith MP, who came out in 1984 and is now the Secretary for Culture, Media and Sport."

Additional reporting by Russell Jenkins

Survey shows 8m adults are poor readers

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

MORE than one adult in five is a poor reader, according a survey published yesterday which suggests that standards of literacy in Britain are lower than previously believed.

The first national survey to use a random sample of working-age adults suggests nearly eight million people have weak reading skills. An even larger number struggle with basic mathematics.

A sample of 3,800 people aged 16 to 65 was tested by the Office for National Statistics. The results showed that 22 per cent could not make an accurate comparison of two pieces of written information while 23 per cent were unable to do simple sums using numbers found in a text.

Those aged over 45 showed the lowest level of literacy. Women and men were equally good at straightforward understanding of newspaper articles and passages of fiction, but men performed better using information from timetables and graphs and in numerical calculations.

The study is part of a programme comparing basic skills in more than 20 countries. Although the results will not be known until next year, Britain has among the poorest records of those whose scores have already been published. Of the countries surveyed — Britain, Germany, Poland, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States and Canada — only Poland has more people over 56 at the lowest level of literacy.

In the youngest age group Sweden, Holland, Germany, Switzerland and Canada had a better record. The 17 per cent of Britons in the lowest category were exceeded only in Poland and the US. There was no significant difference between literacy standards in England and Scotland but in Wales far fewer adults reached the highest level.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, who has given priority to improving literacy and numeracy, said: "Sound literacy and numeracy skills provide the bedrock for all subsequent learning. We have appointed an advisory group on adult learning and we will be publishing a policy paper on lifelong learning before the end of the year."

Alan Wells, director of the Basic Skills Agency, said shortcomings were worse than previously thought. "This also suggests we have a greater number of people with weak reading skills than almost all the other industrialised countries in the survey."

Education, page 35

Ofsted picks first council targets

SIX local authorities with the worst examination results in England will be among the first dozen to be inspected in the latest stage of the Government's drive for higher standards in schools (John O'Leary writes).

Half were chosen because they had the poorest results in GCSE and primary school tests, three were at the top of the league tables and three in the middle. Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools, said the compulsory inspections would begin in January.

The poor performers are Southwark and Tower Hamlets, in London, Manchester, Sandwell, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. Kingston-upon-Thames, Bury and Surrey are the high-fliers chosen and Brent, Sunderland and Kent the middle-ranking authorities.

Announcing the details, Mr Woodhead said: "The Government's White Paper, *Excellence in Schools*, expects local education authorities to play their part in raising national school standards."

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, said: "If a local education authority does not meet the required standard, I will not hesitate to intervene."

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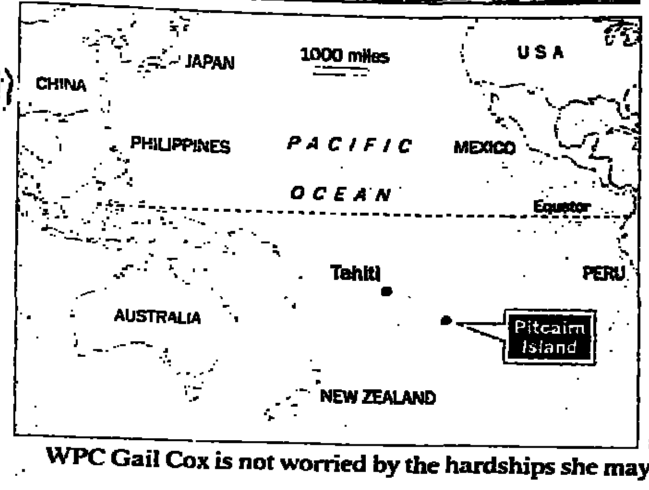
WPC's crime-free paradise



MIKE GUNNILL

WPC Gail Cox is not worried by the hardships she may face: isolation, mosquitoes, humidity and lack of amenities. "It is the chance of a lifetime and I can't wait," she said

Kent policewoman sets sail on a modernising mission to Pitcairn

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent, and Peter Birkett

A POLICEWOMAN is swapping her squad car for the traffic-free Pacific island of Pitcairn. Gail Cox is not, however, being sent to combat a crime wave among the descendants of the *Bounty*: they have the world's lowest reported crime rate. Rather she will take modern policing to the ten-square-mile island.

WPC Cox, from Kent police, has been chosen by the Foreign Office to spend six weeks working with the 54 inhabitants of the island and their part-time constable. The job advertisement warned that the successful applicant would have to endure some hardship and "must be prepared to survive without the amenities taken for granted in less remote locations".

Pitcairn, 3,000 miles from the nearest landmass, has no port or airstrip. WPC Cox will have to wait for good weather to climb down a rope ladder from a chartered yacht to a waiting boat and be ferried ashore. Once there, she will find islanders speaking an 18th-century form of English. The island suffers high humidity and is plagued by mosquitoes. There are no cars and she will have to rely on a four-wheeled motorcycle.

WPC Cox, 36, who has worked for 17 years for Kent police, normally patrols Maidstone and West Malling equipped with a personal radio linked to her station and police headquarters. On Pitcairn the only communication with the outside world is by satellite telephone.

She is not worried. "As far as I am concerned, it is the highlight of my career. It is the chance of a lifetime and I can't wait." If the attachment is a success, she could return next year.

The islanders are descended from the crew of *HMS Bounty*, who mutinied under Fletcher Christian against Captain William Bligh in 1789, and their Tahitian wives. They make a living from fishing and selling fruit or wooden curios to passing ships. Other income comes from postage stamp sales to philatelists.

The chances of serious problems are slight. WPC Cox's brief is to promote community policing and provide some training to the British dependency's resident part-time constable. She will wear her Kent uniform with specially made Pitcairn badges.

She said: "I don't know what to expect when I get out there. I don't know what the conditions are, although I have seen a video about the island. I was expecting mud huts but they are actually huts with a roof and there are shower facilities. I've done lots of outward bound courses and have spent the night under the stars, so basic living conditions don't bother me."

She will be equipped with 40 rolls of film and 15 hours of videotape to record her stay. Her only luxury item will be a compact disc player.

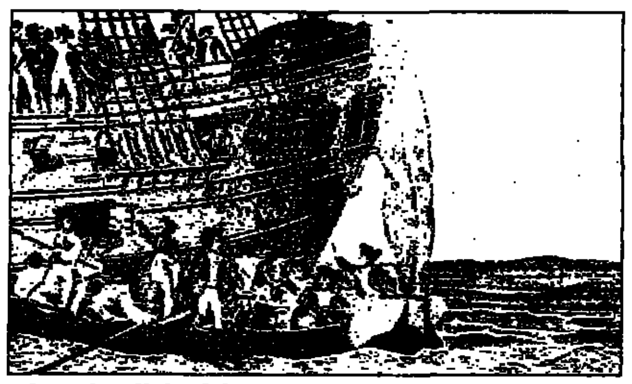
WPC Cox, who is single and has never travelled outside Europe, will leave Britain on October 2 for Auckland, New Zealand, to be briefed on her new duties by the Pitcairn Island Commissioner, Leon Salt. She will fly to Tahiti and then take a light aircraft to the island of Mangerava, where she will pick up the yacht for the final 300 miles.

Once on the island, she will be sworn in as a Pitcairn officer before beginning daily patrols of the cluster of small houses which make up the "capital", Adamstown. As well as her uniform, she will carry truncheon, handcuffs, torch and first-aid kit.

"I'm taking along all the kit I normally carry, with the exception of CS gas," she said. "They have asked me to take my normal uniform, but I'm also taking shorts and Kent police have issued me with some special hot-weather polo shirts."

The law on Pitcairn is basically the same as in Britain and is enshrined in a law book prepared by a New Zealand solicitor. "I have a copy and I have been reading up on it, but I've not yet encountered any real oddities. One of my tasks is to look at the laws of Pitcairn and see if any require amendment."

WPC Cox, a fully trained advanced police driver who normally crews Kent's Maidstone and Malling division emergency car, and who has made between 300 and 400 arrests in her career, applied for the Pitcairn posting after seeing it advertised on the notice board at Maidstone police station.



Captain Bligh of the *Bounty* is put into an open boat

ISLAND HOME FOR 54 PEOPLE

PITCAIRN was discovered in 1767 and named after a Royal Marine major on *HMS Swallow*, which first sighted the island. It is the centre of a small group of islands midway between New Zealand and South America. The three other islands are uninhabited.

Pitcairn is volcanic in origin. It can be reached from only one bay because of cliffs which rise to 1,100ft. The mean average temperature varies from 66F (19C) in August to 75F (24C) in February. Rainfall is about 80in a year. The climate and fertile soil produce lush tropical and semi-tropical vegetation.

The *Bounty* crew who populated the island cast Bligh adrift with 18 of his men. Despite no map and few provisions, they survived after drifting more than 3,600 miles. Bligh later became an admiral.

Conscience preyed on road killer for 20 years

By Simon de Bruxelles

A MAN whose conscience troubled him for 20 years walked into a police station to confess to killing a pedestrian in a hit-and-run accident, a court was told yesterday.

Alan Ralph, 46, a businessman, told police that the brakes on his car were faulty at the time. Carmarthen Crown Court was told that Helmut Henkel, 51, was killed when Ralph's car hit him near the village of Rosemarket, Dyfed, in 1978. A police hunt failed to find the driver.

Geraint Walters, for the defence, said: "The secret had a terrible effect on his life. He has suffered from psychiatric disorders and alcoholic syndrome because it was clear he could not live with his conscience."

Ralph, from Eastleigh, Hampshire, admitted causing Mr Henkel's death by reckless driving. He was put on probation for two years and disqualified from driving for 12 months.

Return the Lindisfarne gospels, says bishop

By Ruth Gledhill

THE Bishop of Durham has said he would like to see the 7th-century Lindisfarne Gospels returned from London to the North East.

The Right Rev Michael Turnbull wants the gospels, taken from Durham Cathedral by Henry VIII during the Reformation, returned there. They are currently held at the British Musuem.

Bishop Turnbull said: "I believe that works of art and of historical interest are best in their places of origin. "Durham Cathedral is where St Cuthbert is buried and there are many other sites in the North East to which the gospels are linked."

Earlier this year Fraser Kemp, Labour MP for Houghton and Washington East, wrote to Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, calling on him to back the campaign to return the manuscripts to the North. But Mark Fisher, the Arts Minister, has dismissed the pleas.

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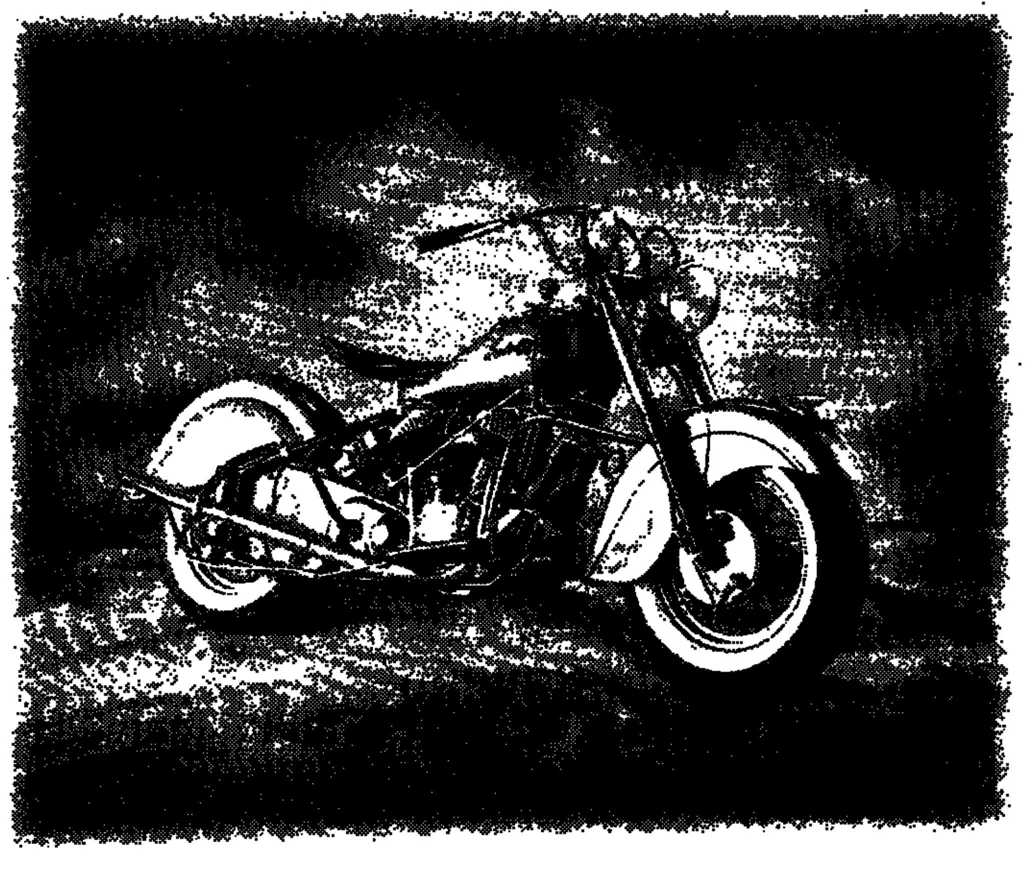

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Neo-Nazi jailed for hate-filled magazines

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

THE publisher of a "vile and evil" neo-Nazi magazine, which sparked race-hate campaigns against Frank Bruno's mother and Paddy Ashdown, was jailed for 21 months yesterday.

Mark Atkinson, 31, pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to publishing two issues of *Stormer* for the far-right group Combat 18. His friend Robin Gray, 35, was convicted of possessing the magazines for distribution and remanded in custody pending sentence.

Sentencing Atkinson, Judge George Bathurst Norman said that in 37 years at the Bar he had "never encountered such vile outpourings of hatred and incitement to violence as revealed in these magazines". The maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment was insufficient and should be reconsidered by Parliament.

By giving the personal details of the boxer's mother, Lynette, the magazine had directed attacks at "the mother of a man who has brought nothing but credit to this country", the judge said. During the case Mrs Bruno, 67, a lay preacher, described receiving a letter bearing a swastika which said "Go home and die". There were abusive telephone calls and a second letter which said: "Bang. It is that easy to blow your head off."

Mrs Bruno said she could not sleep and eventually moved. More than a year later she was still too scared to go home alone in the evening.

Stormer also published the home details of Mr Ashdown, the footballer Paul Ince, the newsreader Anna Ford and the actress Vanessa Redgrave. Addresses of synagogues and Jewish businesses were given in a list called "Jew Watch" and readers invited to take action against them. The judge said one synagogue was defaced and a window broken, which brought back memories of the conduct of the Nazis in Germany in the 1930s.

Mr Ashdown's house was firebombed outside his home in Somerset last year. The judge told Atkinson: "When a politician speaks out against racism in his local community you target him in one issue and then you celebrate the firebombing of his car in the next. You give his name and address and invite his murder with the words, 'He doesn't deserve to live.'"

Atkinson: magazine gave address of public figures

Atkinson, a dustman, and Gray, who stood as a National Front by-election candidate, were arrested at their home in Feltham, west London, in May last year. Police found 500 copies of *Stormer*, which costs £1.50, ready to be sent to subscribers. Another issue of the 12-page magazine was found on computer disk.

Sasha Wass, for the prosecution, held up in court an edition with a front-page picture of Adolf Hitler. Another edition congratulated Italian Fascists on their racist taunting of Paul Ince after his move to Inter Milan.

The Labour MP Harry Cohen condemned the 21-month sentence as "derisory" and said that the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, should tell the courts to impose much tougher punishment.

Mr Cohen, MP for Leyton and Wanstead, said: "It seems to me that the courts are not taking vicious and dangerous racial abuse seriously enough. This man was guilty, in effect, of threatening people, causing them great fear and terror, and was a menace to society. He created a blight in the lives of the people he attacked, drove them out of their homes. A much more severe sentence should have been imposed."

SIMON SCHLUTER

James Ozigi with a picture of himself taken after he was attacked outside his home by a drunken gang

Drunken gang beat preacher in race attack

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A MEMBER of a drunken gang who attacked and racially abused a black preacher outside his home was jailed for 33 months at Inner London Crown Court yesterday.

Gary Dobson, 22, and other members of the gang left James Ozigi, executive secretary of the Churches Commission for Racial Justice, so badly injured that it was feared he would lose a kidney and that his sight and hearing would be impaired. When a black neighbour, Douglas Brian, went to his aid he was stabbed in the head.

Sentencing Dobson, an electrical maintenance worker from Lambeth, South London, for violent affray, the Assistant Recorder, William Kennedy, told him that he had attacked Mr Ozigi, 44, for no reason other than his colour. The judge said that the courts would heavily punish those who committed racist attacks.

Outside the court, Mr Ozigi, who is also general secretary of the Council of African and Caribbean Churches in the United Kingdom, said he still suffered nightmares over the attack. He had passed out during the attack and when he came to, his ten-year-old son was being hit after coming to his aid. "It was a terrifying experience." He felt that Dobson should have been given a longer sentence and questioned why the police had not acted against alleged members of the gang named by Dobson during the trial.

Earlier, the court was told that Dobson, convicted last month after a four-day trial, was part of a group of men who began an argument outside the Ozigis' home, in August 1995, after leaving a pub in Bermondsey, southeast London. When Mr Ozigi's wife, Elizabeth, 41, a mother of four, went to investigate, she was abused, and Mr Ozigi went to defend her.

He was racially insulted and pulled into the street by five white men who punched and kicked him. He was streaming with blood, and when Mr Brian went to his aid he was beaten as well.

After the case Detective Constable Garry Harding said that reports on two of the men named by Dobson during the trial had been sent to the Crown Prosecution Service for a decision on action. A third man has fled abroad and a fifth man has been acquitted.

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Jews used terrorism too, says Mrs Rabin

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK RABIN'S widow has challenged Israel's policy of blaming Yassir Arafat for Islamic terrorism, saying yesterday that Jews were once terrorists and the British could not stop them.

Leah Rabin made the admission, a difficult one for most Israelis, and accused Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, of doing "everything against" peace. She said Mr Netanyahu was trying to humiliate the President of the Palestinian Authority. "He [Arafat] feels very much under pressure, and justifiably. Our Government has tried to bring him to his knees," she said.

Her stand is in line with the thinking of Palestinian analysts and some left-wing Israelis, who argue that Mr Arafat can do little in the war against terror while Mr Netanyahu's policies continue to cause such ill feeling in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Mrs Rabin said, shortly before meeting Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State: "I have doubt about how much [Palestinian] terrorism can be uprooted. We were also terrorists once and they didn't uproot us and we went on dealing in terrorist activities. Despite all the efforts of the British Army, we went on with terrorism." Mrs Rabin was referring to the period after 1917 when Britain conquered what was then known as Palestine and ruled the area until the establishment of the Jewish state in 1948. During this turbulent era, and especially after the Second World War, the British fought Arab and Jewish militants alike.

A leading figure in the Jewish underground movement was Menachem Begin, later Prime Minister. In 1946, he got approval from his colleagues to blow up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, which then housed part of the British administration. The blast killed 28 Britons, 41 Arabs, 17 Jews and five others. Mr Begin outraged families of other victims when he said he mourned only the Jews.

The episode proved decisive in convincing the British authorities to leave the area. Before pulling its troops out, Britain had tried to crack down on Jewish extremists through floggings and executions. The Jewish underground retaliated by kidnapping British soldiers and delivering the same punishments. Two British sergeants were hanged on July 29, 1947, by Jewish extremists and British floggings and executions stopped.

Mrs Rabin clearly believes that Israelis today need to learn from this period of history and adopt a different approach. She quoted a favourite phrase of her husband: "Yitzhak would say, 'We will make peace as if there is no terrorism. We will fight terrorism as if we are not taking steps towards peace.' That must be the approach."

In November 1995, her husband was shot dead by a Jewish extremist opposed to the Government's decision to hand land to the Palestinians in exchange for peace. Yesterday, she accompanied Ms Albright on a visit to his grave in Jerusalem.

☐ **Friend's plea:** Margalit Har Shefi, 21, a friend of Rabin's assassin, said yesterday that her statements to the police should be rejected because she had been deprived of sleep and barred from consulting a lawyer. She has pleaded not guilty to charges that she failed to report Yigal Amir's plan to kill the Prime Minister. Her trial, which began in March, resumed yesterday in Tel Aviv. *(AP)*

Letters, page 19

JACQUELINE LARMA / AP

Leah Rabin, left, and Madeleine Albright after the US Secretary of State laid a wreath yesterday at the grave of Yitzhak Rabin

Albright lectures Palestinians and Israel on peace

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN RAMALLAH

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT set foot for the first time in the Israeli-blockaded West Bank yesterday and admonished a sullen-looking Yassir Arafat for his failure to root out the terrorists who have killed 20 Israelis in five weeks.

Attempting later to balance her criticism, the US Secretary of State urged Israel to take a "time-out" from settlement activity and other unilateral actions that have angered Palestinians. "Israel should refrain from unilateral acts, including what Palestinians perceive as the provocative expansion of settlements, land confiscation, home demolitions, and confiscation of IDs," she said in a speech to Israeli high-school students.

Ms Albright told the Palestinian leader that his latest pledge to fight terrorism "100 per cent" would be monitored by the United States to see if it was carried out "over a sustained period".

Mr Arafat, dressed in his trademark military fatigues and facing 250 journalists, had his carpeting whispered into his ear by a translator. "The truth is terror threatens the pursuit of peace, terror threatens the Palestinian Authority, and terror threatens the hopes of the Palestinian people," Ms Albright said.

"To be effective, the Palestinian Authority fight must be comprehensive and relentless and sustained. It cannot be pursued only when it is convenient to do so. As Chairman Arafat knows, fighting terror is a 24-hour-a-day job."

Since the triple suicide attack in a Jerusalem street last week, Palestinian police have rounded up more than 100 suspected Islamic militants. But Israeli officials have dismissed the effort as window-dressing designed to appease Ms Albright.

☐ Paris: Hubert Vedrine, the French Foreign Minister, launched a blistering attack on what he called Israel's "catastrophic" policies (Ben Macintyre writes). The peace process was broken, and the Israeli Government's attitude was undermining the credibility of Mr Arafat, he said.

Chinese 'capitalism' will embrace share deals in state firms

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

THE fifteenth congress of the Chinese Communist Party, which opens in Beijing today, will be largely unscripted, given that party chiefs have apparently failed to reach a consensus on crucial leadership changes, diplomats say.

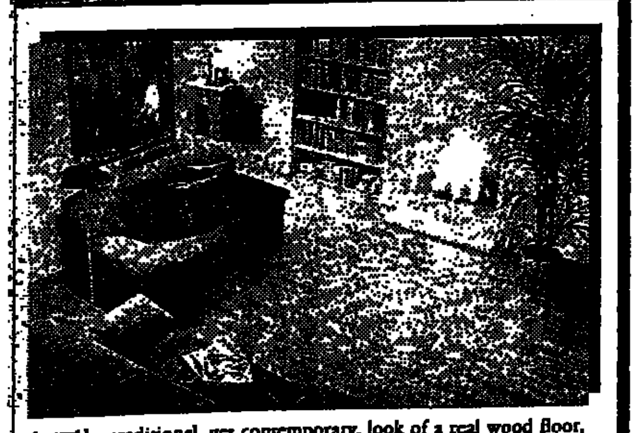
"China has no gods now," Wang Shan, author of a book on China's political future, told foreign correspondents this week. "Mao was a god, Deng Xiaoping was a god, but now there are none." This means, in essence, that President Jiang Zemin, 71, does not exercise the kind of authority his predecessors did as he enters a crucial week, during which he will outline to 2,048 party delegates the nation's course for the next five years.

Envoys say the biggest issue, and one requiring some fancy ideological and economic footwork, will be an innovative privatisation scheme for the reforming of failing state-owned enterprises without causing vast unemployment — one of the concerns most troubling to China's 1.2 billion people.

The party conclave, which is held every five years, will aim to continue China's free-market economic reforms, what Deng called "socialism with Chinese characteristics", with what amounts to drastic economic restructuring — in effect, another step towards capitalism. Selling shares in reformed enterprises to the public is apparently the principal means of achieving this, though care will be taken not to call it privatisation. Xu Guangchun, the congress spokesman, said last night that the key was who controls the majority of shares, indicating the State will continue to have that power.

A recent flurry of outspoken calls for political reform — not from dissidents but economists and political scientists inside the party — will not result in anything like the democratic system of Western countries, Mr Xu indicated. "I would like to make this point here, that we do not copy Western democracy."

Another key issue will be corruption. It was announced this week that Chen Xitong, a former high-ranking Communist leader and a former Mayor of Beijing, had been expelled from the party and may face trial over corruption. Some doubt whether he will ever appear in court, however, because — as one Western envoy said — "he knows too much about the rest of the leadership".



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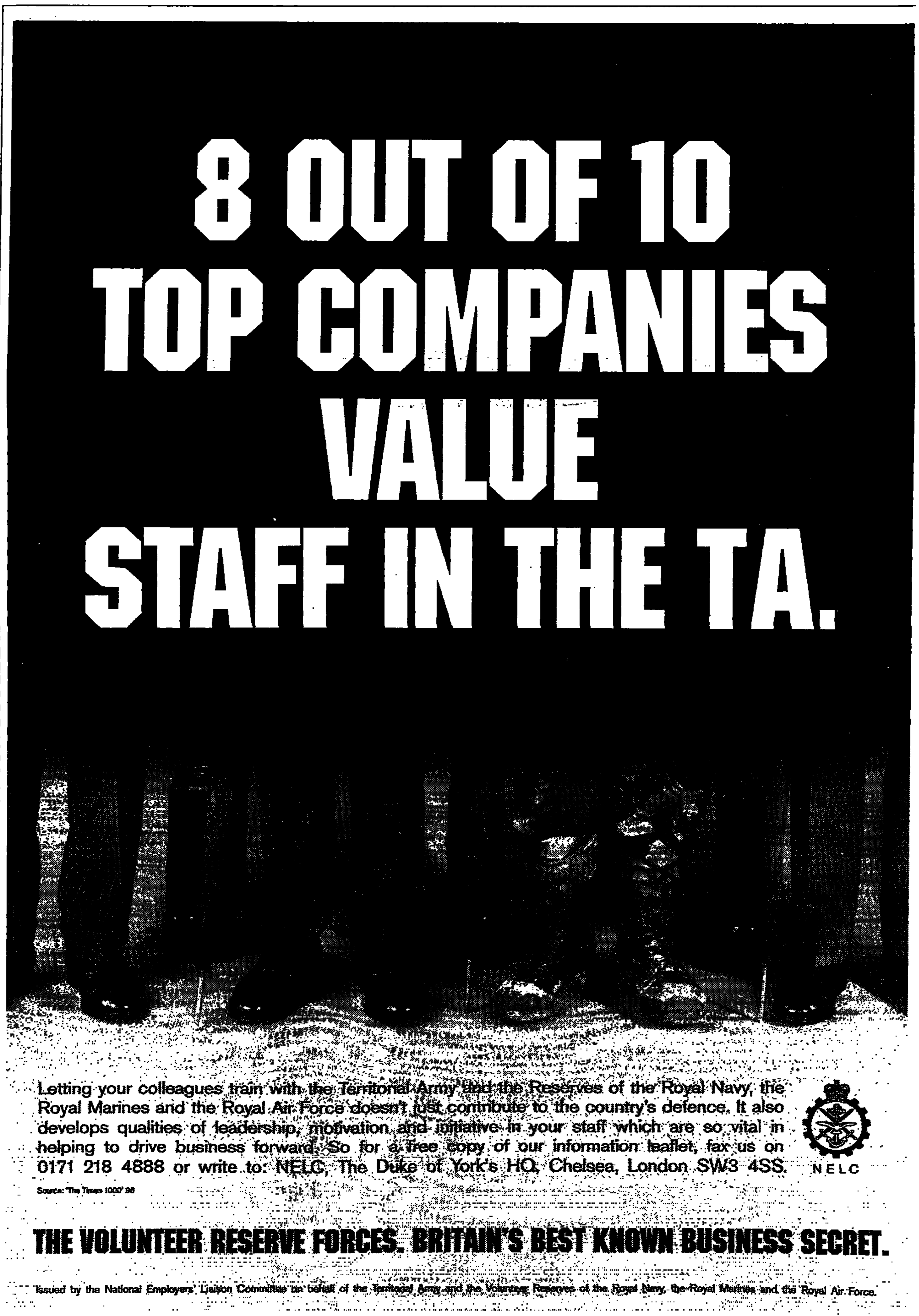

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Officers rebuked for sex scandals at US Army base

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE American Army, beset with sex scandals, responded yesterday by extending basic training to teach recruits ethics and values.

It also sent letters of reprimand, in effect ending their careers, to a major-general and half a dozen senior officers *at the training base at* Aberdeen, north of Washington, where 12 drill sergeants were charged with sex crimes against young women soldiers. The Aberdeen scandal led to the Army setting up a sexual harassment hotline that logged more than 8,000 calls from around the world and led to 341 criminal investigations, of which 47 are still pending.

The episodes *showed that* integration of men and women, particularly at the training level, was not working. At the same time, the air *force had its problems with adultery, as highlighted* by the case of Kelly Flinn, the first female B52 pilot, who was forced to resign. The Navy, too, has struggled with sexual problems, beginning with the Tailhook affair which arose from a convention of fighter pilots where women were assaulted.

An army panel reported yesterday on its ten-month study. It found that the service had failed to screen male drill sergeants adequately and that not enough research had been done on their backgrounds to determine whether they had criminal records or other problems that might have signalled trouble.

President Clinton's Army Secretary, Togo West, decided not to segregate men from women, who make up a fifth of recruits, during training, *but will add a ninth week for* the annual intake of 70,000 recruits who undergo "boot camp", the first *big change* since the Vietnam War. Throughout the training, extra classes will be given on army values and on mutual respect.

The army will ask Congress to create a position for a senior general to oversee training camps and will add 100 lieu*tenants* to remove the *burden* of administration from drill sergeants. Additional chaplains will be sent to the training camps so that recruits can turn to someone outside the chain of command for help and guidance.

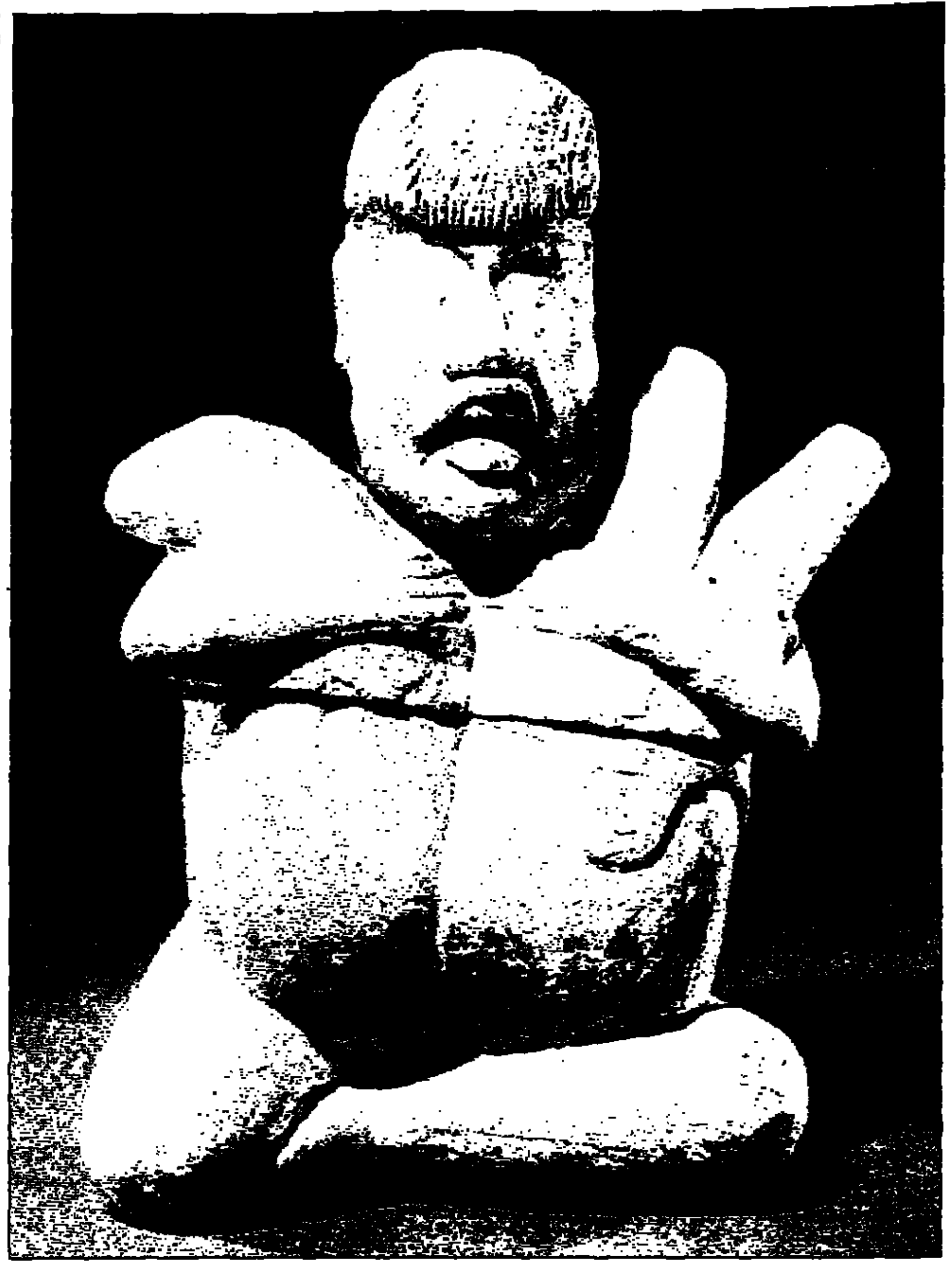
Major-General Robert Shadley, the most senior officer reprimanded, plans to contest his *punishment* as *unfair, a Pentagon official* said. He had been praised earlier for his quick response *to complaints of rape*. Now he was being "hung out to dry" by the army for its widespread neglect, Susan Barnes, an advocate for women's rights in the military, said.

Some army officials had argued that he should be exonerated on the ground that he was too senior to have known about sexual goings-on under his command. Members of Congress said that the *top brass had to be made more* accountable.

Of the 12 drill sergeants at Aberdeen, one was convicted of rape and sentenced to 25 years in prison, four were found guilty of other sexual misconduct, four agreed to be discharged, one was cleared and two cases are pending. Courts-martial were told that the sergeants shared lists of their sexual conquests.

A captain who represented two of the drill sergeants said that proof of a corrupted command structure would have helped all the defendants and could be a ground for appeal for those found guilty.

Flinn: forced to resign from US Air Force



AP

A 3,000-year-old Olmec carving, thought to be the oldest representation of the human heart. The 7in figure formed part of an exhibit in The Art Museum at Princeton University when Gordon Bendersky, a cardiologist, realised that what he was *looking at was an anatomi*cally correct image of the heart. The artefact is thought to have come from Las Bocas in southern Mexico. *The Olmecs are the* ancient predecessors of the Mayans and Aztecs. The vessel includes a pulmonary artery, an aorta and a superior vena cava. It was carved 2,500 years before Andreas Vesalius, the so-called father of anatomy, published the earliest accurate images of the heart. *(AP)*

Doctor shows heart of stone

Updike weighs whether to pull plug on Web heroine

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

THE novelist John Updike, the face of American middle-class angst, will write the last instalment today for his "cybertale", a relay short story which began with a paragraph by him in July, and whose stylish baton has been taken forward each day by a host of eager literary runners.

The story, *Murder Makes the Magazine*, began on July 29, with a paragraph as polished as a guardsman's boots and about as rich as Christmas pudding. It was vignette of vintage Updike, raising hopes of a *riveting tale that would* grace the Internet for weeks to come. The first sentences carried a soupçon of foreboding:

"*Miss Tasso Polk at ten-ten alighted from the elevator on to the olive tiles of the nineteenth floor only lightly nagged by a sense of something wrong. There had been someone strange in the elevator. She had felt it all the way up.*"

The story since then, alas, has not always gone up. It has often gone down, as writers of uneven gift turned their hand to Updike's tale. *Of course, the offerings have not* always been bad: some have had panache: others have been clever.

Too often, they have been clever-clever, as writers strove to match the master at his game. The author, though, expresses no complaints. "It's a larky thing to do," he said. He is intrigued, too, that after 45 days in the hands of total strangers, Miss Tasso Polk is still alive.

The promoters of the tale, amazon.com, the world's largest online booksellers, have been inundated with offerings, sometimes *receiving more than* 1,000 *in the* space of 24 hours. The chosen author of the day has received $1,000 (£630), *a princely sum for no more than 200* words, and a rate that should make most journalists green with envy.

Updike himself received $5,000 for his efforts, which included submitting three different "first paragraphs"; amazon.com, he says, chose the most "melodramatic" one, "dredged from my files". It was the opening to a mystery novel begun 30 years ago and abandoned as being "too slight". *The New York Times, cementing its reputation as a sniffy* killjoy, has questioned why "Mr Updike is involved in such an overtly commercial enterprise".

Kay Dangaard, a spokeswoman for amazon.com, said yesterday that she had pleaded with Updike "not to kill off Miss Tasso Polk". Ms Dangaard said: "We now get letters addressed to her and callers think that I am Miss Polk." Updike has made her no promises: Miss Tasso Polk may be dead by tomorrow.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Tajik bases used to bomb Taleban

Karachi: The Taleban Islamic militia yesterday accused neighbouring Tajikistan of helping rival forces as the battle for control of the northern Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif intensified (Zahid Hussain writes). The opposition jets which *allegedly flew from* Kulab airbase in Tajikistan bombed the Taleban forces 12 miles away from the battered city.

Taleban fighters who launched an offensive on Tuesday in *an attempt* to capture the northern opposition capital were locked in a fierce battle on the city outskirts. It is the closest the militia has moved towards the city since May when it was *driven* away. One report said the battle was raging around the airport, which was briefly captured by the Taleban forces on Tuesday. The fall of Mazar-i-Sharif would deal a devastating blow to the opposition alliance.

Kenyans approve reforms

Nairobi: Kenya's parliament yesterday *formally adopted* constitutional reforms intended to avoid bloodshed before elections expected to take place later this year. The changes provide for the repeal of *laws that allow detention without* trial, and approve the expansion of the electoral commission to bring in members nominated by the opposition. They also provide for equal access *to state media* by the opposition and President Moi's ruling Kenya African National Union.

"We saw that our country was headed for chaos and we *decided to take this bold step*, talk to each other, agree on changes before elections," said Jillo Falana, one of four convenors of the group which drafted the reforms. *(Reuter)*

Storm saves Machu Picchu

Peruvian archeologists yesterday began investigating the damage caused to *the Inca ruins* of Machu Picchu after a fire which has destroyed 600 hectares of forest on the mountains around the ancient citadel (Gabriella Gamini writes). They were able to start assessing the extent of *damage* after an unexpected rainstorm helped *firefighters* put out the flames which had spread from mountain to mountain around the ruins over four days. The storm, the first rain in six months, drenched the site. Local people believe the spirits of their Inca ancestors extinguished the fire.

US aircraft to 'jam' Serbs

Washington: The *Pentagon* is sending three *EC130 aircraft to* Bosnia to jam hardline Serb radio and television broadcasts at the start of the republic's municipal elections this weekend (Tom *Rhodes writes). The planes can override ground broad*casts while channelling separate transmissions in their place. For a month, Serbian supporters of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader *and indicted war criminal*, have used the airwaves to challenge the Dayton peace accord.

Krenz set free for appeal

Berlin: Egon Krenz, 60, East Germany's last hardline *communist* leader, walked *free from* Moabit prison here pending an appeal against his conviction last month on four manslaughter charges. He was jailed for 6½ years after his 18-*month* trial. His *victims were* refugees killed as they tried to flee to the West over the Berlin Wall. Krenz was greeted at the jail gate with a kiss from his son Karsten. *(Reuters)*

Yacht cup attacker jailed

Auckland: Benjamin Peri Nathan, 28, a New Zealand Maori student who almost destroyed the 150-*year-old* America's Cup yachting trophy in Auckland with a sledgehammer, was jailed for 34 months in addition to an 18-month term he is already serving for aggravated robbery. The cup has since been repaired by London silversmiths. *(Reuters)*

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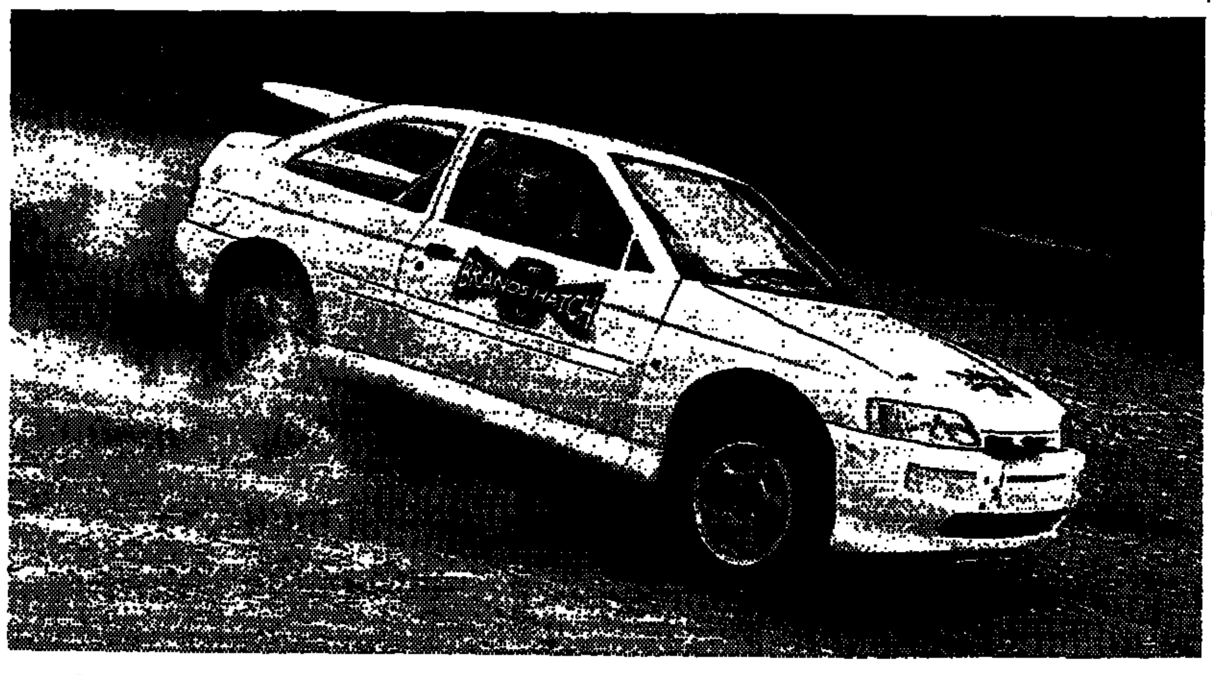

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PETER DEJONG / AP

Sisters and novices from the Missionaries of Charity rehearse hymns yesterday in Calcutta's Netaji Indoor Stadium for Mother Teresa's funeral tomorrow

Nun's lavish funeral stirs Calcutta debate

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

MOTHER TERESA's body will be taken for burial tomorrow on the same gun carriage that carried the remains of Mahatma Gandhi, father of independent India, and Jawaharlal Nehru, its first Prime Minister. More than 500 soldiers will escort the vehicle, to be pulled by a field military tractor, and there will be volleys of rifle fire over the coffin.

Questions are being asked about whether Mother Teresa, 87, would be appalled by such military pomp. Her death has raised other sensitive questions: will donations to the Missionaries of Charity plummet without her money-raising international prestige?

Is it right to bury the Roman Catholic nun at Mother House, her home, where the public will have almost no access to the grave? Should the Government spend so lavishly on the funeral of a woman who lived by a vow of poverty?

Queues outside St Thomas's Church, Calcutta, where she is lying in state in a glass casket, grew to more than a mile yesterday as the clamour to get a last glimpse increased. The army, which formally assumed responsibility for the body yesterday — customary practice before a state funeral — initially opposed postponing the burial, which had been planned for Wednesday, five days after her death. The Sisters, however, demanded a delay on the ground that more time was needed for national and international dignitaries to reach Calcutta.

Most Indians are surprised by the length of time between Mother Teresa's death and her interment. It is customary for Hindus to be cremated quickly, and Muslims are generally buried within 24 hours. Christians in India do not normally display their dead.

Her grave will be in a room previously used for common prayers. She had wanted, and expected, to be interred at another St Thomas's — in north Calcutta — because of its custom of holding prayers round-the-clock every day of the year. Many church officials are upset at the change of plans.

Some of the nuns have complained privately, too, that the money being spent on the funeral could build several orphanages.

Manila 'faces civil war under Ramos'

Fidel Ramos, left, is enraging opponents with hints that he will find a way to stay as President, **Jonathan Mirsky** *reports from Manila*

ONCE the model of a modern Asian leader, President Ramos of the Philippines is now being vilified across the political and religious spectrum.

He is accused of seeking to extend his term of office beyond next June in an eerie rerun of the corrupt era of Ferdinand Marcos, whom he helped overthrow. The situation has led the country's Roman Catholic leader, Cardinal Jaime Sin, to give a warning that "there will be another Cambodia" with civil war, murders and executions.

The cardinal's bloody forecast followed a statement by President Ramos that he would submit to the will of the people if they decided to change the constitution because the country was in danger. His implication was plain: he was prepared to serve a second term.

The Philippines now faces its greatest crisis since the overthrow of Marcos by "people power" in 1986 after years of violence, corruption and circumvention of previous constitutions. The candidates for the 1998 election must be registered by November.

Mr Ramos says he is not behind the movement to alter the constitution to permit term extentions, but he is being so elusive about his intentions that the uncertainty caused another fall on the Philippine stock exchange yesterday.

"Why am I being demonised. Why am I a hate figure, sometimes even among small children?", he mused in an interview with *The Times*. One Manila newspaper columnist believed the answer to be: "We put our President up on a pedestal and venerate him and then discover he's just a goddamned cheap liar ... he prefers the sneaky deceitful procedures of rats and cockroaches."

With so little time remaining, President Ramos's genius for evasion and ambiguous assurance has provoked rage among his enemies — of whom the greatest is Cardinal Sin. Seated in his palace yesterday, the Cardinal said: "My opposition to President Ramos is not political. It is my duty as Archbishop of Manila to guide the people so they will do their duties as citizens."

He said he had always opposed the selection of Mr Ramos for the presidency by his predecessor, Corazon Aquino. "I think she repents this now ... I believe he [Ramos] knew the identity of the assassin of her husband."

Benigno Aquino was Marcos's most dangerous opponent, whose still unsolved murder in 1983 led to the overthrow of the former President and the election of Mrs Aquino. "That murder was never properly investigated," added the Cardinal.

The man whom Mr Ramos fears is his Vice-President, Joseph "Erap" Estrada, the John Wayne of the Philippines, who for 40 years has starred in moralistic shootouts with dozens of gangsters and rapists. In a badly educated population which reads and views little news but loves good-guy action films, Mr Estrada is a wildly popular man, who is favoured by most observers here to sweep to office if Mr Ramos stands down. In the 1992 election which brought him and Mr Ramos to power, Mr Estrada received two million votes more than the President.

Speaking to *The Times*, Mr Ramos said: "I'm not in favour of term extensions" — and within seconds was spelling out a new kind of people power, strictly constitutional, which permits referendums, plebiscites, petitions and constituent assemblies which could "petition for changes in the constitution". He added: "It's not my personal future which is of moment but the national interest and the future of the Philippine people."

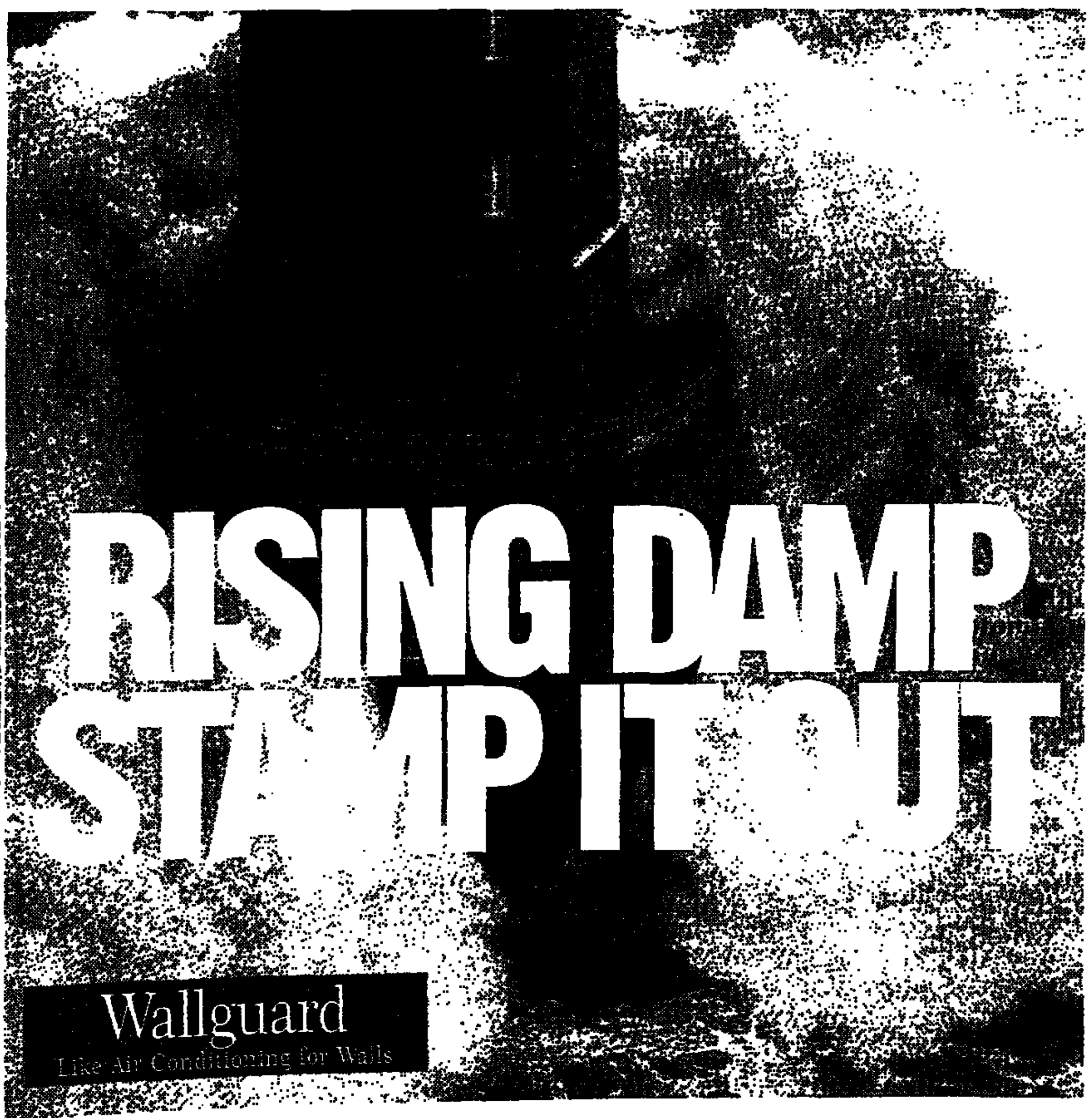
This modesty was overshadowed by a vision of political disorder. "We have to pick a leader who will bring the Philippines into the 21st century as an efficient country. There's a lot of fierce competition out there which could unbalance us."

REUTERS

Cardinal Jaime Sin: fears bloodshed and "another Cambodia" in the Philippines

The protest movement against Mr Ramos is gathering pace: every day in Manila at 6pm, church bells ring and car horns blare in what is called the anti-Ramos "cha-cha-cha". On September 21, the Cardinal and Mrs Aquino — who says that some of her supporters told her when she was President to seek a second term because she was "indispensable" — will address a crowd they hope will number hundreds of thousands. They are attempting to create an atmosphere reminiscent of the one that brought down Marcos but without the confrontation between the people and the army.

In the artful way which maddens his critics, Mr Ramos says that he extends "mega-tolerance" to this demonstration, that he wanted it to happen, and that "I have instructed the police to support it".



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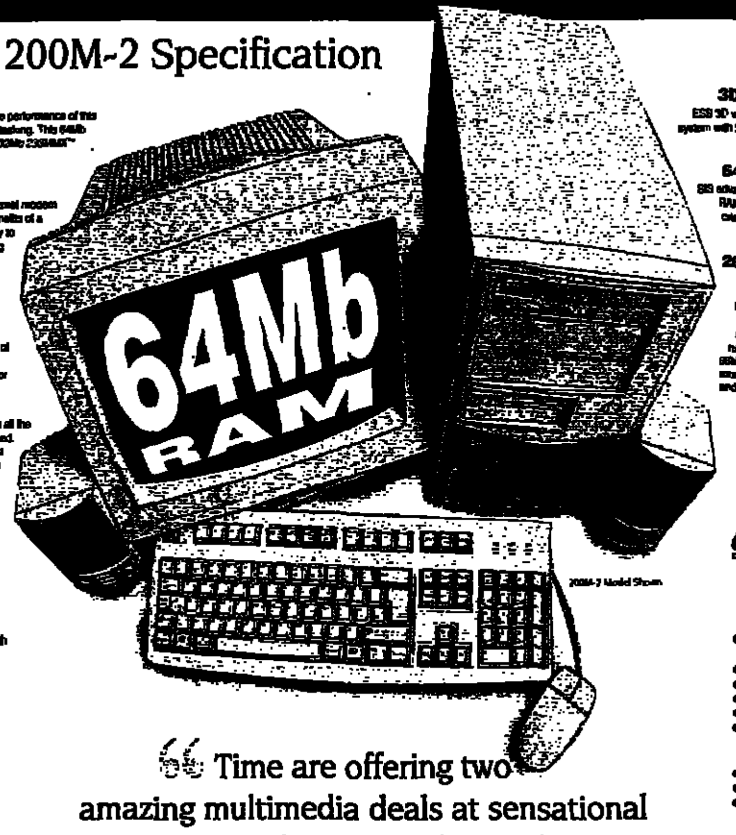

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Russia swears to clean up language

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S parliament is planning to reintroduce Soviet-era legislation to ban swearwords from being spoken or published, in an effort to clean up the Russian language.

In a move encouraged by President Yeltsin, and welcomed by many Russians who have seen their cherished tongue battered by obscenities and invaded by foreign words, the parliamentary culture committee has decided to fight back with what amounts to censorship.

"We have a situation in Russia today where there is a completely uncontrolled use of language in the streets, in the media and in books, and it is time we did something about it," said Vladimir Sementsov, who is helping to draft the new law.

Under Communist rule, swearwords and pornography were outlawed by the infamous Article 209 of the Soviet Criminal Code, which regarded any profanity as "hooliganism", an offence punishable by a sentence in a labour camp. However, since the era of glasnost and the collapse of communism, *mat*, the Russian term for the nation's rich vocabulary of expletives, has become commonplace in newspapers, on television and in the street.

Although it is unlikely that Soviet-era punishments will be reintroduced, it is expected that swearing in public or writing obscene words could lead to criminal prosecutions and fines.

Anatoli Baranov, an expert on expletives at the Institute of the Russian Language, said that while the reaction against swearing was understandable, the censors would have a difficult time controlling what people wrote, read and said.

Some of Russia's greatest writers, such as Aleksandr Pushkin, used swearwords in their texts and today writers such as Eduard Limonov have made obscene language the hallmark of their writing style.

Mr Yeltsin has taken a personal interest in the protection of the Russian language, and last year assembled a council of experts to investigate ways of protecting the mother tongue from profanity and from the invasion of foreign words, particularly English. Earlier this year, he announced that he was considering banning the use of foreign words in advertisements and declared that he was prepared to "fight to save our mother tongue".

Aleksandr Korzhakov, the disgraced former presidential bodyguard, revealed in a book published last month that the issue is close to the President's heart. In his account of life in the Kremlin, Mr Korzhakov said that Gennadi Burbulis, once one of Mr Yeltsin's closest aides, was sacked after drinking too much and making a rude toast at a dinner in the presence of Mr Yeltsin's wife and daughter. He claimed that Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, could not compose a sentence without using obscene words.

Eradicating obscenities from the Russian language could be a difficult task, since many Russians are proud of their colourful and imaginative curses, such as: *Ya zdes boltayus, kak govno v propyubi* (I have been hanging around here like a turd in a fishing hole); or *Eyo ebut kolkhozom* (She has had the whole collective farm). Avoiding them is difficult unless you avoid military service, public transport and drinking vodka.

CHARLES PLATIAU / REUTERS

President Chirac hailed Stephane Grappelli, 89, as "the greatest jazz violinist in the world" yesterday as he made him a Commander of the Legion of Honour. Charles Aznavour, the French crooner, and Nana Mouskouri, the Greek singer, were also honoured

Moscow's Sinatra tunes in to politics

BY RICHARD BEESTON

IOSIF KOBZON, the Russian Frank Sinatra, famed for his singing voice and notorious for his alleged links to the mafia, retired from the stage last night when he gave his final performance in Moscow on his 60th birthday.

After a career spanning 40 years and 3,000 songs, the Communist-era crooner, still beloved across the former Soviet Union, said farewell to adoring fans at the Rossiya Hotel after deciding to embark on a new life in politics.

"It was a difficult decision, but I wanted to stop singing while there was still life in me," he said. "I can do more for this country when I am in a position of power."

He has set his sights on the Duma, the lower house of parliament, and his first attempt at gaining office will come this weekend, at a by-election in the Siberian constituency of Aginsky-Buryat. Kobzon says he wants to run for parliament to defend citizens and to raise the level of the nation's spiritual life. Critics, however, suspect the move may have more to do with the benefits that come with a parliamentary seat, not least immunity from prosecution.

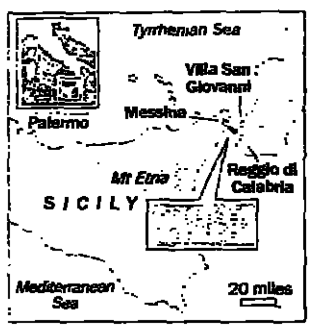
Sicily to have bridge link with mainland

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME AND FRANCESCO BONGARRA IN PALERMO

THE Italian Government is to approve the building of a gigantic £3 billion single-span suspension bridge linking Sicily to the Italian mainland, officials said yesterday.

"The Government of Romano Prodi is really behind this project, and it seems it has approved it," said Nino Calarco, head of the state-run Stretto di Messina authority. Aurelio Misiti, a senior official at the Ministry of Public Works in Rome, said the bridge would be operational by the autumn of 2006.

La Repubblica reported that the bridge design had passed all technical tests, and work was expected to begin in 18 months. The bridge will be more than two miles long and 195ft wide, supported by 1,200ft-high towers at either end. It will carry road and rail traffic, with planners anticipating 200 trains a day and a two-way flow of 9,000 vehicles an hour on a 12-lane carriageway.



The Romans first conceived the idea of linking the mainland and Sicily to safeguard the island in their struggle with Carthage. In the 19th century, the idea was revived by Garibaldi, the Italian patriot and military leader, as part of his campaign for the unification of Italy. But modern feasibility studies were only undertaken in the 1970s, and Sicilians use "a bridge across the straits" as a figure of speech for an unattainable dream.

Environmental campaigners have argued that the volcanic rock on both sides of the Straits of Messina is unsuitable for such a huge project. Lega Ambiente, the leading environmental group, said the area was notorious for earthquakes and tidal waves. It is the setting in Homer's *Odyssey* of the twin hazards of Scylla and Charybdis — thought to refer to whirlpools and jagged rocks. In 1908 Messina was levelled by an earthquake which killed 84,000 people and made the shoreline sink by 18ins overnight.

But Signor Misiti said the planners, working with experts from Europe, Japan and America, had taken local conditions into account and the bridge would be built to withstand winds of more than 125mph, earthquakes of up to 7.1 on the Richter scale and even nuclear explosions.

A final decision will be taken by the Italian Cabinet on October 10. The Government is cutting public spending to trim the budget deficit and to meet the criteria for the European single currency. But Signor Calarco said road tolls would recoup much of the cost, and the Italian authorities hoped to obtain European funding for the project, as linking Sicily to the mainland was "of European significance".

Next month, Signor Misiti will outline the project to the USA-Italy Foundation in Washington in a bid to obtain backing from Italian-American "banks, insurance companies and pension funds", a move which has led some Sicilians to joke that the bridge will be "paid for by the Mafia". At present, goods and passengers have to cross the straits by ferries run by Italian state railways. But the ferries operate at a loss, and there are reports that private companies may take over the route as early as next year.

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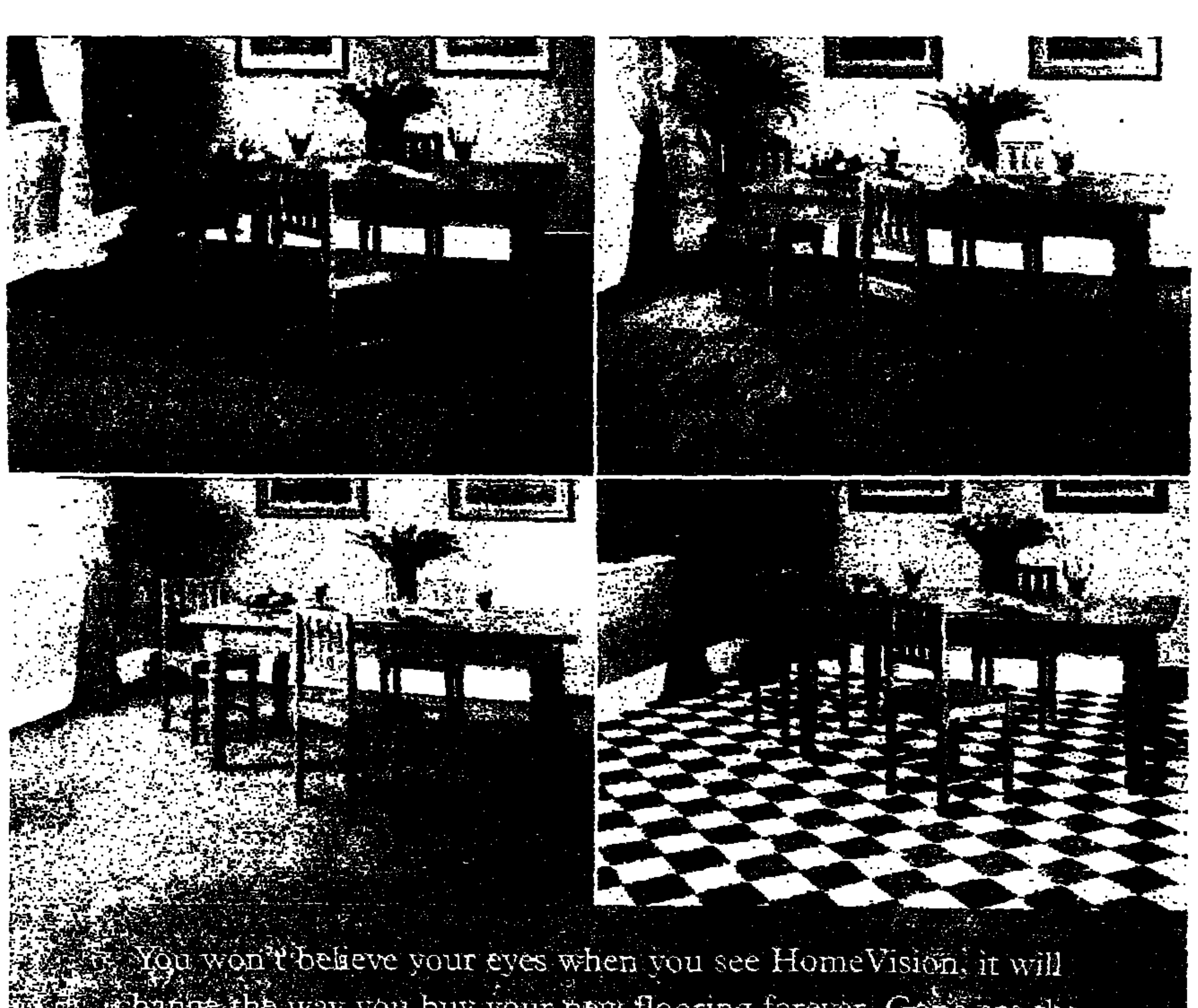

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Yeltsin orders inquiry into Mir failures

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yesterday demanded a full inquiry into the series of accidents and malfunctions aboard the Mir space station over the past three months, which began in June when an unmanned cargo craft punched a hole in one of the complex's modules.

The inquiry, due to be completed by the end of the month, is aimed at clearing the air after accusations and recriminations among Russian space agency officials.

The crew on Mir at the time of the collision, Flight Commander Vasili Tsibliyev and Flight Engineer Aleksandr Lazutkin, face fines for culpability amounting to a third of their pay during the mission.

The crash happened as Commander Tsibliyev was attempting to dock the cargo craft manually with the station during a practice manoeuvre. Mr Lazutkin is additionally being held responsible for unplugging the station's main computer in July, leaving the complex virtually without power and spinning out of control through space for about 24 hours.

Other officials, including Boris Ostroumov, deputy director of the Russian space agency, said the two men should be treated as heroes and receive awards for their achievement in overcoming the disasters.

Russian newspaper reports said that about $10,000 (£6,300) of both men's pay had been withheld pending an official investigation into their mission. Viktor Blagov, deputy chief of the mission control centre at Korolyov, north of Moscow, said the men had received 70 per cent of their pay, but that there was no firm decision yet about whether they would be fined.

Mr Yeltsin's remarks, made during a meeting with Aleksandr Serebrov, a prominent former cosmonaut and member of the President's Defence Council, appeared to point the way towards both cosmonauts being exonerated.

Mr Serebrov said afterwards that a considerable share of the blame for the situation aboard Mir could be found on Earth.

Since the collision, the Spektr research module has remained sealed off from the rest of the complex. A spacewalk last weekend by Michael Foale, the British-born Nasa astronaut, and Anatoli Solovyov, the replacement flight commander, failed to locate the hole in the module.

As well as the collision and the computer crash, the Mir crew has had to endure other setbacks including failures of the oxygen generating system, breakdowns in the automatic stabilisation system and a shortage of power. Commander Tsibliyev also suffered heart problems.

Second Nasa probe homes in on Mars

Washington: A Nasa spacecraft was closing in on Mars early today to map the planet's surface and find landing sites for future missions, including a manned expedition (Ian Brodie writes).

The Mars Global Surveyor was due to enter an elliptical orbit at 2.31am after a journey of ten months and 435 million miles. A roving vehicle was landed on Mars in July.

The Surveyor will not begin mapping the Martian surface until March after descending to an ideal viewing orbit 235 miles above the planet. It is expected to provide the most detailed topographic maps of the Red Planet ever seen.

The launch of Nasa's first Moon mission in 25 years has been pushed back from September 24 to November 23 because officials need more time to prepare the rocket that will carry the lunar probe, Nasa said. The Lunar Prospector mission will mark Nasa's first foray to the Moon since 1972.

MIKE HUTCHINGS / REUTERS

Policeman's testimony ridiculed

George Bizos, the lawyer representing Steve Biko's family at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearing in Port Elizabeth yesterday, cross examines the leader of the police unit that tortured the black activist to death (Inigo Gilmore writes). Colonel Harold Snyman, 69, was ridiculed by a mocking public gallery as repeated inconsistencies destroyed his version of the events of 20 years ago.

The colonel, who led Biko's interrogation, agreed with Mr Bizos that he believed a black man should obey a white man, especially a police officer. He also said that Biko, a leading member of the Black People's Convention, had become "too big for his boots", but denied playing a direct role in his death. The largely black audience at the hearing — which will decide if Colonel Snyman and four former colleagues are granted amnesty — at times could not restrain its laughter. The colonel repeatedly said that Biko had attacked five policemen in a small room and accidentally hit the wall with his head, which led to his death.

Winnie witness can give evidence

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN CAPE TOWN

AN ARREST warrant for a man who claims to link President Mandela's former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela to at least two murders is being lifted so that he can return to South Africa for a public hearing, officials said yesterday.

The decision appears to remove the last bar to the return of Katiza Cebekhulu, who disappeared on the eve of a 1991 trial at which he was to have been a co-defendant with Mrs Mandela. He turned up in London and claims he was abducted to keep him from giving evidence.

Katiza's Journey, published this week by Fred Bridgland, says Mrs Mandela ordered the killing of Dr Abu Asvat in 1989 — she denies the accusation — to cover up her role in the beating of four young men in 1988. One of them, Stompie Moeketsi Seipei, was found dead later and Mrs Mandela was convicted in 1991 of kidnapping and being an accessory to assault.

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CENTRE: Mat jersey dress, £795, and hipster belt from Donna Karan, 19 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-495 3100). Opaque velvet deluxe tights by Wolford

RIGHT: Leather short-sleeved dress, £1,475 *from a selection at* Ralph Lauren Collection at Polo Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 4967).

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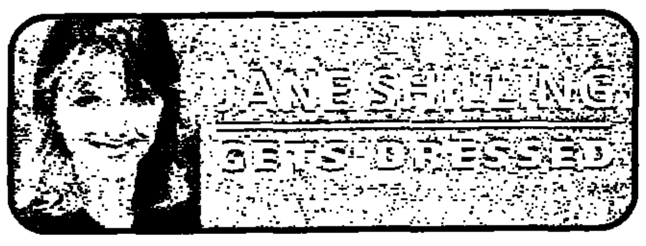
A whiff of Bad Attitude



THERE IS no such thing as a too-short skirt. There is *no such thing* as a too-short skirt. *It is important for me* to believe this, since I have just spent a tidy sum on a very, very short skirt *indeed* (well, actually, *two* very short skirts — but they are so extremely small that strictly speaking, they count only as one skirt. Or so I keep telling myself). In any event, having bought them, I have begun to experience Doubts.

It was the glossy magazines that made me do it. At the very fag-end of summer, just when the charm of those flower prints and ruffles that seemed so fresh and pretty at the season's start had definitely begun to fade, along came *Vogue* and the rest of the glossies, full of images of these short, sharp, rather brutal little skirts — the very antithesis of drifty prettiness. A new look — and of course I wanted it. Out for a walk one sunny day, I wandered into a shop, and there it was, 18 inches of dark-grey, box-pleated cavalry twill.

STANDING IN front of the mirror, I thought it looked all right. There appeared to be no sign of Kneecap Drop or Ankle Bloat, or any of the other afflictions that might condemn one to a winter of trouser suits and full-length tweed drapery. A certain leap of the imagination was necessary, it is true, but with the addition of some spike heels and a cashmere twinset, some opaque tights, lipstick and my hair properly brushed, I thought I could probably get away with it. You had better have it in black, too, said the salesgirl. I am sure you are right, I said, obediently.

What I have always loved about minis is their powerful whiff of Bad Attitude. I missed the moment of their greatest impact, first time around, but when I arrived at secondary school in the Seventies they were still regarded by the authorities with loathing and dread, and the biology master, armed with a tape measure, used to roam the corridors, making random spot checks on our skirt lengths (no shorter than two inches above the knee when kneeling upright).

The other great thing about minis is that men are keen on them. With quite a lot of high fashion (grunge, a look I loved, is a good example), lengthy and tedious explanations are necessary before they get the point. You get all dressed up in your exquisite vintage satin slip dress with the real lace border, and the velvet-trimmed cardigan from Voyage that cost you would rather not say what, and the chap in your life raises his eyebrows to his hairline and says, in the silly falsetto voice he reserves for these occasions, *Are you going to put your frock on before you go out, darling?* With minis, on the other hand, no explanation is required. Merely a stout pair of black gym knickers and an expression that says, "Oh, I'd love to, but unfortunately I am just on my way to see Reverend Mother".

So why, with all this in their favour, am I not quite sure about my new skirts? Well, for a start, although it is true that short skirts have never really gone away (despite the periodic announcements of their demise from the Paris catwalks), the new look is shockingly shorter than anything that has been around recently. *It alters the proportions of the body,* lengthening the legs and truncating the torso — and last year's cardigan looks all wrong with it.

One way around the problem of proportion is to forget separates, and choose, instead, one of the many simple and desirable dresses around this season — just as sexy, and much easier to wear. As for me, I can see that the only solution lies in another little expedition to the shops.

If you're royal, you can't be a cry-baby

The funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, brought back poignant memories for Lady Mountbatten. Interview by **Sandra Parsons**

The family in 1979, left to right, Nicky, Timothy, Amanda, Michael John, Joanna, Philip, Norton

The funeral last Saturday of Diana, Princess of Wales, held particular poignancy for Countess Mountbatten of Burma. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are among her oldest and closest friends, and the Prince of Wales is her godson. Prince William and Prince Harry have played often with her own grandchildren. There can have been few mourners in the abbey more aware of their pain.

But for Lady Mountbatten there was an additional grief. It was in Westminster Abbey that her father, Earl Mountbatten, was given a ceremonial funeral in 1979, after his fishing boat was blown up by an IRA bomb. Her 14-year-old twin son Nicky was also killed in the blast, as was her mother-in-law and a 15-year-old Irish boy, Paul Maxwell, who had been acting as crew. Lady Mountbatten, her husband and Nicky's twin, Timothy, who were also on the boat, were seriously injured.

Her injuries were so severe that for several days doctors thought she too would die. Neither she, nor her husband, was able to attend the funerals of her father, his mother or their son.

"They did produce a television in the hospital, and I was just able to catch a glimpse of my father's coffin, covered in the Union Jack," she says. "That was all I saw. Going to the Princess of Wales's funeral, and sitting more or less where my family had sat, I felt I could imagine how it must have been then.

"The date last Saturday, September 6, was also the same date that Nicky was buried. The *Londonderry Air* they played reminded me vividly of the memorial service we had for my father, my mother-in-law and Nicky, and that brought back tremendously emotional memories. That did make me cry."

She has learnt from brutal experience that when someone you love dies, the worst thing you can do is bottle up your feelings. As well as the murders of her father and son, she had a stillborn baby, Anthony, in 1952 — a time when mothers were briskly told to forget all about it and have another as soon as possible — and also shared the anguish of her eldest son, Lord Romsey, and his wife when they lost their five-year-old daughter, Leonora, from cancer in 1991.

After Nicky's death she cried every day for six months and says the best advice she was given was from Lady Fisher of Lambeth, widow of the former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Fisher, who wrote to her saying: "Will you take some advice from a very old lady? Respect your tears."

She has since made it something of a mission to do all she can to help others whose loved ones die, and next month will speak of her own experiences at a conference held by the Child Bereavement Trust. Its aim is to help doctors, nurses and teachers to deal with the bereaved, in particular children coping with the loss of a mother, father or sibling.

> 'The playing of the *Londonderry Air* at the funeral brought back tremendously emotional memories'

"Of course I have no professional training," she points out humbly, "but I do believe experience teaches one a great deal and by far the most important thing is to let the feelings out. Children of course are very good at concealing their feelings, and may also think they want to protect their parents from any more suffering. There is also the temptation for parents to feel they should protect their children from grief. But it is terribly important that they be allowed to grieve and to mourn. If the feelings are blocked they will come out and hit you much harder in later life."

We are both uncomfortably aware that she, as a dear friend of the Royal Family, has in recent days been closely involved in a bereavement that has caused the entire nation to mourn.

Her discretion is ingrained. However, she has been deeply upset by criticism of the Queen and Prince Charles, and the growing public fear that his sons will now face a ramrod adolescence rattling around a cold House of Windsor.

"Prince Charles is *marvellous* with the children and most warm and loving. There was a criticism of them going to church and sitting upright and apart in the car, but you *can't* lounge about in public with your arms intertwined about people. The public support is obviously important for the children and I am quite sure they receive tremendous support from their father and grandparents. The Queen is very good with her grandchildren. They will receive close and warm support from their family, as they have always done. It's not going to start from now, they always *have* had it.

"It's so understandable, if you are brought up to be a future Queen, you can't be a cry-baby. You can't say I have a headache, I don't want to go out today. You have got to be in control of yourself and you can't burst into tears in public. It's a lack of imagination that causes these criticisms, people don't put themselves into someone else's position. If you do put yourself in the position of someone who has been traumatically bereaved, and who has had the most terrible tragedy happen, you would realise that they need a little while to be able to compose themselves sufficiently to face the public."

For Lady Mountbatten, family is paramount. She adores her own and believes that if people lived in extended family units they would have fewer problems. Indeed, her house in Knightsbridge, once home to her, her husband, and all seven children, has now been converted into a *pied-à-terre* for them and a family home for one of her sons, Philip, and his wife and children.

She and her husband are coming up to "51 years of wonderfully happy marriage". She puts their success down to the fact that she knew him very well before they married — he was her father's ADC and therefore almost a member of the family, "so I knew him not just in the sense of going to dinner or a weekend away, but when he was under pressure in everyday life as well".

It helped, too, that her father also loved her husband. In some ways he became the son Earl Mountbatten had always longed for, while her husband, whose own father had died when he was 14, found in the Earl a surrogate father figure.

She has had an immensely privileged life. Her maternal great-grandfather, the financier Sir Ernest Cassel, left several million pounds when he died and hauled his close friend King Edward VII out of debt. Her godfather was Edward VIII, and her parents, Louis and Edwina, were the most glamorous couple of their day. The King and Queen attended her wedding in 1946, and her bridesmaids were her sister, Pamela, and the then Princesses Elizabeth, Margaret and Alexandra.

You might expect her to be rather remote but she is warm and approachable. She has the gift of putting people at their ease, surely learnt at her father's knee: "I had a marvellous father who could talk about anything to anybody."

Prince Charles, of course, was quite devastated by the death of her father, his great-uncle whom he called Uncle Dickie. The bomb exploded on August 27, 1979, a glorious summer's day. The Countess, her film producer husband Lord Brabourne and four of their seven children were staying with her father at Classiebawn Castle, where they had enjoyed family holidays for 30 years. They would often putter about the bay in the Earl's old fishing boat and the August Bank Holiday trip to inspect the lobster pots was one they had made hundreds of times before.

> 'I was so overwhelmed by the loss of Nicky that I began to feel guilty about my father'

The last thing Lady Mountbatten remembers of that day is saying to her 83-year-old mother-in-law, Doreen Lady Brabourne, "Isn't it a beautiful day?" At that point the IRA members sitting watching them from the cliff pressed the remote control and detonated the bomb. She heard a huge explosion and knew very little more until, drifting in and out of consciousness in hospital, wired up to a life support machine, she distinctly heard someone say: "The old lady's gone."

"I realised that they must mean my mother-in-law, and that if she had died then my father, who was the same sort of age group, might have died as well.

"Although I couldn't see or speak or communicate in any way, I realised that Timmy was somewhere on the intensive care ward as well, and then when my sister came to visit, people talked about my husband, who was on a ward upstairs. They didn't talk about my mother-in-law or my father, so that sort of confirmed that. But nobody mentioned Nicky, and it did dawn on me that that was probably because he was dead too. But like Scarlett O'Hara I decided to think about that tomorrow, because I really felt I needed all my strength to survive. I couldn't face another terrible blow. So although I knew in my heart, I didn't want it confirmed.

"Eventually I asked my sister, I tried to write on a piece of paper if Nicky was dead and she pretended she couldn't read it. She said she had to take it outside into better light. And of course she told the doctors that I was asking about Nicky and they said, 'if she is asking, you must tell her.'

"The pain was overwhelming. I was tremendously close to my father and I always knew it would be an appalling loss when he died, but I was so overwhelmed by the loss of Nicky that at one point I began to feel guilty that I wasn't mourning my father enough. But then I realised that he would have understood, because the whole world was mourning him, whereas very few people even mentioned Nicky. It didn't mean that I loved my father any less, but it did demonstrate to me the strength of one's feelings as a parent. The child takes very much first position."

She is convinced it was because she was able to talk so much to both her sister and her husband that she never suffered nightmares about what had happened. Nor does she feel bitterness. "I have seen it so often, when people are bitter it not only destroys them but the people around them, too. It gets you absolutely nowhere. That sort of energy is better turned into trying to do something constructive."

Instead of flowers, her children asked for donations to be made to the NSPCC at Nicky's funeral. The result is a memorial fund which the Northern Ireland NSPCC uses to send both Catholic and Protestant children on holidays together.

At the age of 73, she is still involved with 50 charitable and voluntary organisations. But it is for the bereaved that she is perhaps most helpful and inspirational. She is certain that talking about and sharing the experience is the best way to help others going through similar grief.

"It's a loss of self-control. Some people think they are losing their mind. That didn't happen to me, but you burst into tears for no particular reason, you're stunned and disorientated and it's difficult to gather your thoughts. I think it is reassuring to know that there are other people in the same circumstances.

"Time does mellow the pain. Eighteen years later I still cry for Nicky, but mainly I remember the happy times, and it helps that we talk about him as a family.

"It took me six months of misery, and then a year to be relatively normal, and two years to be back to as normal as life is going to be, which is normal with a gap. You just learn to live with the gaps."

- *The Child Bereavement Trust conference is on Friday, October 10 at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London W1. For more information write to CBT Conference and Publications Service, Mole Conferences, 33 High Street, West Molesey KT8 2NA. Telephone and fax 0181-941 8324*

PETER NICHOLLS

Lady Mountbatten: "It took me six months of misery, and then a year to be relatively normal"

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Philip Howard

■ We Britons may keep a stiff upper lip, but the Americans invented it

A stiff upper lip has become an unfashionable feature, even when it does not jut out above a loose lower jaw. Since it is the lower lip that quivers when Tony Blair is reading the lesson, and when one is on the verge of crying, a stiff *upper* lip seems a useless appendage. I thought that this stoic image must have been invented for Victorian five-year-olds off to prep school and subalterns stranded up the Khyber Pass without a saddle, reciting *If*. And at least one explanation has been attempted along these lines: young officers in Victoria's armies wore moustaches to make themselves look adult, and tried to keep them trim so that the cultivated hair did not make their upper lips twitch, such twitching being a sign of lack of control in front of their men and memsahibs.

Like most popular etymologies, this explanation is ingenious but as useless as facial hair. All recorded evidence shows the stiff upper lip to be of American Puritan origin, from 1830 onwards. It is the reverse of the American "down in the mouth". Harriet Beecher Stowe urged Uncle Tom to keep a stiff upper lip. A century later P.G. Wodehouse, expert in American slang, was one of the first British writers to introduce the image. "Carry on Jeeves, stiff upper lip!" Graham Greene, another expatriate Briton sound on American usage, distinguished machismo, the Spanish equivalent of the Roman *virtus*, as having little to do with a stiff upper lip. And indeed, antique Roman and Homeric heroes blubbed a great deal at the appropriate occasions, provided they did so in a manly way, not making a ritual display of screeching like a woman.

Shakespeare's heroes from Hamlet downwards were not afraid of tears, yet like the antique Romans, Shakespeare knew that the best epitaphs are dry, with only a hint of tears in the subtext. *Cymbeline* is a muddle as a play. But it contains two of the most plangent lyrics in English, including "Golden lads and girls all must,/ As chimney-sweepers come to dust." This does not have the Iron Age stoicism of the epitaph by Simonides for the Spartan dead at Thermopylae. But Housman caught Shakespeare's combination of stiff upper lip with the common touch that comes to lads, girls and chimney-sweepers in his epitaph on the British Expeditionary Force of 1914.

Tastes in epitaphs vary vastly through times and cultures. For those who find *Candle in the Wind* and the vernacular verse in Kensington Gardens touching but mawkish, Peter Vereker, our poetic Ambassador to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, has written a song for Diana:

I will go smiling, sleeping,
To the cool of the great hall:
I will go proud and safe
Not sad at all

I will go running, laughing,
To the calm of the green isle:
I will go bright and brave
To rest awhile.

I will go seeking, giving,
To the peal of the high bell:
I will go glad and sure
Where lovers dwell

An icon used to be a stiff Byzantine picture of Christ, the Virgin Mary or a saint, venerated in the Orthodox churches. Now it has become a conventional cliché, an icon to click on from the database. A tragedy should be more strictly defined than just as a terrible calamity. Dunblane was not a tragedy by the strict definition of the word, though it was an enormity and a great grief. But a tragedy should concern a celebrated protagonist, with some fatal flaw in his character. It once had to have a turning-point, a recognition scene, a climax and a resolution. A tragedy should teach lessons, and perhaps purge our emotions through a spectacle of pity and terror. Diana's death was part tragedy, part fifth act of a Shakespearean historical drama in fashionable modern dress, and part black farce.

And for those with stiff upper lips, *paparazzi* were named from the Italian for "buzzing insects", which they resemble as they swarm about a celebrity victim. Their activities were first brought to public notice by *La Dolce Vita*. But Maeterlinck anticipated Fellini: "Something in the insect seems to be alien to the habits, morals and psychology of this world, as if it had come from some other planet, more monstrous, more energetic, more insensate, more atrocious, more informal than our own."

As journalists defy the powerbrokers who control the Moscow media, a free press is born, says **John Lloyd**

Russia's fourth estate takes on the tsars

Russia — weak, poor, uneasily at peace, neither collapsing nor surging ahead — makes little news now, in contrast with the last five years of the past decade and the first five of this. Its political divisions have resumed a Byzantine pattern: men of power struggle viciously in and around the Kremlin for advantage and state favour, apparently indifferent to the popular welfare. Most disappointing to me, who saw between 1988 and 1995 the flourishing of a profession of really free and talented journalists, these men and women who established the new papers and renovated the old television and radio channels seem to have been suborned by the new masters.

Russian politics have become oligarchic. Boris Yeltsin achieved re-election last year because he mobilised the financial support of most of Russia's leading bankers. But nothing is free in Russia: the financiers benefited hugely from their investment in Yeltsin, receiving large slices of the most profitable assets in the country. Two of their number — Vladimir Potanin of Oneximbank and Boris Berezovsky of Avtovaz — took high posts in government (Potanin has since resigned).

The deal made with the businessmen included assimilation of the media into the presidential camp, and a very large moderation of its critical faculties. The main business figures either had, or quickly acquired, control of the television channels and the Moscow newspapers. *Izvestia*, which had a period of relative freedom in which it became the liberal and generally trusted voice of the intelligentsia, was bought up by a combination of Oneximbank and the major energy company Lukoil, and lost its doughty Editor, Igor Golembiovsky.

The two principal television channels — the partially state-owned ORT and the independent NTV — are either controlled or owned outright by Berezovsky and Vladimir Gusinsky of the Most financial group. Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, has just created his own television channel to serve his (formally denied) ambition to run for the presidency. He is also said to have put pressure on all channels to keep Diana, Princess of Wales's funeral off Moscow's screens last weekend because it clashed with the anniversary celebrations he had decreed for the capital.

Since powerful, ambitious and ruthless men control the media, the business of journalism must serve their ends. The carving up of the state assets of Russia is a brutally corrupt business in which the big bankers are not merely in the corridors of power but right inside the highest offices, demanding this and agreeing on that. They are at war among themselves at present because Potanin of Oneximbank, the closest to government, outbid Gusinsky of Most and Berezovsky of Avtovaz for control of the company which controls the shares of the largest part of Russia's telecommunications. The latter two felt it was their turn to be favoured and have turned the fire of their television companies and papers on the senior ministers who they feel betrayed them.

This is a grim picture. Journalists can — indeed, are encouraged to — expose this or that minister or financier, but only because their boss wants revenge or to gain an advantage. Corruption on their own side is wholly taboo, no matter how blatant; that is the stuff of the rivals' media.

The benign view is that from this hammer and anvil of competition is beaten out the truth, or something near it. The reality is that few seem to find the revelations of corruption and influence-peddling shocking, since there is seen to be no effective way of stopping it. Where the judicial and political institutions and civil society are all weak, independent media flap their wings uselessly in the fetid air.

Russia was never a wholly open society, even in its most idealistic days just before and just after the Soviet collapse, yet it has not become a wholly closed one. The oligarchic state is unstable, with Yeltsin now favouring this old hack, now that new broom — such as Boris Nemtsov, the new First Deputy Prime Minister. The financial barons make alliances which fall apart and are reformed with new configurations; the State is too weak to keep them in line and thus create a corporatism along fascist lines.

Russia is no longer a vast island. The Mayor of Moscow may have decreed Diana's funeral off the airwaves, but he invited her friend Luciano Pavarotti to sing in Red Square, together with the American illusionist David Copperfield to do tricks and the French electronic showman Jean-Michel Jarre to put on a light show. The sale of the communications company to Potanin was only possible because the Hungarian-American financier and moralist George Soros backed him with £1 billion. Even as the energy sector seeks to keep out foreign capitalists, it realises that it cannot renovate itself without foreign capital.

The journalists probe the limits; the better ones try to push against them. When an ORT correspondent was jailed by the authoritarian Government of Belarus for demonstrating how lax its border controls were, the Russian Ambassador did not complain, but his inactivity sparked angry protests, not just from the television company but more widely. The many casualties and hostage-takings of Russian journalists in Chechnya gave the profession a moral stiffening — the more so since the writers and cameramen brought back pictures and stories which helped to create a public outcry against the war. Oleg Golembiovsky, in his sixties, is trying to found a new *Izvestia*.

Gorbachev raised the lid, initially to promote his own agenda. Later he, then Yeltsin, decreed press freedom to be a fact. It remains an aspiration — as it does everywhere. Money can still write many of its own rules in Russia, but it has witnesses and it cannot wholly control them.

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman.

Hey Mum! I'm on thin ice

It started when I fell into a crevasse. Then came hornets, rockfalls, bats, rapids . . .

Matthew Parris

"Hey mum!" was how Bob Morgan put it. When I began writing for *The Times*, Bob was a senior reporter in our room at the Commons, nearing retirement. "If your column could be introduced by the words "Hey mum! Guess what happened!" he told me, quoting the old Fleet Street advice, "it's probably worth printing. Or try asking 'so what?' at the end. If the question stings, reconsider submitting the piece."

Too often the question stings. They could put "so what?" on my tombstone. Few columnists fail to persuade themselves that what they have just written matters, but on sober reflection, we all have weeks when good topics come as rarely as Number 11 buses.

Then, like Number 11 buses, they all come at once.

Our story, then, takes shape not so much as a cream puff, as a log: a traveller's log . . .

First I fell down a crevasse. This was a new experience for me. Many ice-climbers *never fall down* a crevasse in their lives: I was into my first within an hour of being taken on to my first glacier. We were above 16,000ft in the Cordillera Réal of the Bolivian Andes, learning the techniques necessary to climb 5,000ft higher, to the summit of Mount Illimani. We had just mastered ice-axe arrests. Now, roped together, three of us — Peter last, me in the middle and our leader, Archie, to the fore — we were making our way down the glacier to base camp.

It was within seconds of Archie shouting "crevasse!" that the new fall of snow under my feet suddenly gave way. My foot went through. As I tried to right myself, the other foot went through. Now I was up to my chest and the snow under my arms was crumbling in, too. Some instinct caused me to spider out my arms and legs and lie still. Archie and Peter dug in and fastened the rope. It held and I lay spreadeagled, hands and feet dug into crumbling banks, looking down.

You may think this odd, but I felt nothing as epic as shock at this unexpected possible end to my life; just a sort of "oh!" such as might follow the coming-off of a doorknob in one's hands. I stared down. It was not cobalt blue, as in the movies. It was brown, dim and murky, deeper than I could see: I heard the echoing drip-drip of water, as into a deep well. I was not afraid, though no more than hopeful of survival. Peter and Archie tugged and I rolled out of it. An hour before I had protested to Archie that this was a Thatcherite world and climbing ropes risked condemning three instead of one.

Of Illimani, you may hear more next week. Of our rowing against a storm across the waters of Lake Titicaca to the Island of the Sun, there is no space to tell . . .

And so we come to Conzata. We (Penny, Louis, Adrian, Julian and I) had reached this tropical village in the foothills of the Andes by Jeep, and, after pulling ripe oranges from trees, lodged in a tiny but pleasant lodging house. (Should we lock up our valuables? "No," we were told. "There was a thief here once, but we shot him.") The dawn saw a dearth of transport on to Santa Rosa (30 miles), so we started to walk.

It did not matter that nothing came.

Our morning stroll along a jungle track, through hills, alongside rivers, overflown by chattering green parrots, attended by butterflies the size of blue and yellow handkerchiefs, observed by bird spiders from giant-sized webs and ignored by armies of leafcutter ants on the march, and surrounded by flowering trees and waterfalls . . . was like paradise.

Lunch at Incachaka after 15 miles was hot, but they had rice and fried egg (they never have less in Bolivia, and rarely more) and we marched on into the afternoon sun. Suddenly there was a swimming pool — a big, roadside concrete pool fed by clear, cool water from a nearby stream — so we stripped off and swam. Then onward, the forest trees growing more huge as we descended into the heat. Next a bend in the track, a giant mahogany, and a liana rope hanging from 50ft above. We all swung and shrieked like children.

Then on. All at once a swarm of black hornets attacked from the trees. We fought them off. Our losses amounted to five stings: six hornets bit the dust.

Another corner — and a river to cross. A wide, deep and turbulent river. Boots off, we waded over with sticks. The track began to climb. After climbing 1,000ft we were strung out singly over a mile, all tiring. The sun was setting as I rounded a bend to hear a waterfall and see Louis' rucksack but no Louis. Moments later he stumbled out of the undergrowth, soaked, bleeding from the head, arms and leg. Exhausted and thirsty, he had tried to reach the water, fallen down the bank, dislodged two rocks, hit the water and been hit on the head by much the smaller of the rocks. Lucky it wasn't the big one. The wounds were superficial and Louis was dazed, no more. We limped in the dark into a mining village, serenaded by bullfrogs as fireflies flashed and tree frogs bleeped like electronic synthesizers. A dog-sized coypu scuffled into the bushes.

Lights and a bar! Penny drank two litres of fizzy lemonade and was sick. An ancient Land Rover materialised and taxied us through some gullies to Santa Rosa. Penny collapsed on to a bed at the Hotel Ruth — a goldminer's lodging, with a green swimming pool — and we four then hit the town: one cobbled street lined with stalls — lit by Tilley lamps, with chemical balances by the cash desk for those who pay in gold — and bars. At one such we drank eight cold beers to the barmaid's cassette of Ana Gabriel's *Mexican Lament*. The Indian at the table next to ours got up to urinate out of the door, returned, clasped Adrian's hand in drunken goodwill, sat down alone at his table and continued drinking. Later we were surprised by a crash as he hit the bare earth floor, followed by everything on the table. The barmaid picked up the broken glass and left him lying there, crumpled and insensible.

We returned to the hotel and swam at midnight. Big bats flitted over the water. Sleeping hardly a wink in this noisiest and most mosquito-ridden of dives, we rose for the dawn Toyota (20 miners in and on top of one pick-up truck) to Mapiri.

At 9am from Mapiri there is a dugout canoe to Guanay. We reached it just in time, our Toyota driver steering straight into the river, then driving upstream, the water flowing under the door sills, to the canoe landing. The three-hour, 80-mile river journey, shooting down rapids, outboard-motor assisted, in the company of miners, their wives, babies and wheelbarrows, as Indians panned the riverbanks for gold, was too amazing for words . . .

So no words, save to mention the rock we nearly hit (big, glistening, black, flashing by) and the wave that hit us, drenching Adrian. On to Guanay, whence a stifling three hours in an overloaded minivan on a dirt road to Caranavi, a truck stop at the foot of the Andes, where we were now headed back. I made tomato-and-onion sandwiches.

By the Caranavi road junction we found a vast Volvo truck laden with some 30 tonnes of hardwood planks, its driver and his family just climbing into the cab. He agreed to turn a blind eye as we clambered up the side. There followed three hours we shall never forget. Atop the mahogany, looking out over the cab, we had a platform in the air as the Volvo roared and ground its way up an earth road winding, it seemed, into the sky. Dusk fell, waterfalls from above the road splashed on to us and dust enveloped us as our vehicle clung to the edge of the near-vertical mountainside into which the road was carved and dynamited.

And then . . . but I think I'm running out of space. Lorry stops in dark. Rockfall ahead. Pitter-patter, then rush, then roar, then pitter-patter. Driver U-turns to roadside shack where woman with two Kerosene rings makes two plates of rice plus two tins of pilchards, wolfed. Turn again: landslide still in progress. Huge roar. Driver says stop the night. Bed on planks. Millions of bright stars; pitter-patter, roar all night. Dawn. Road kaput. Decide to cross landslide on foot (Indians doing so), then walk. Penny hit on head by rock, but not killed. Penny shocked, dazed. Julian takes her pack, she limps behind. 10km on, reach shack. Negress in Indian costume and bowler hat (descendant of escaped slaves) gives us water, and alcohol for Penny's head wound. Walk on. Sudden roar of scores of trucks — landslide must be cleared, road re-opened — first driver misreads detour sign and heads into flat, dry riverbed — all follow — much hooting and dust — all head back out the way they came — *Wacky Races* — we flag down minibus, sweaty peasants edge away — bus climbs hill — on top, Corioco. Hotel Esmeralda, phone! Swimming pool, trout, beer. Penny can chew a bit. So brave. Must send *Times* column . . . Hey, mum!

THE TIMES DIARY

Second love

IAN McEWAN, the novelist, has just wed in secret. His bride is Annalena McAfee, a red-haired arts journalist known to colleagues as "the much-loved", whom he married at a private ceremony in Long Island. Surprised friends thought he was still recovering from the end of his 14-year marriage.

Blushing groom: McEwan

McEwan, 49, whose novels dwell on teenage incest, serial killing and sado-masochism, was as coy as a teenager who had eloped to Gretna Green. "We're very good friends," he blushed. "She's a lovely girl."

He has dedicated his latest novel, *Enduring Love*, about a disturbing psychological condition which renders sufferers in a psychotic state of deluded, unrequited and obsessive love for another — erotomania — to his new wife.

For McEwan it is a radical life-change. During his marriage to Penny Allen, a meditation expert, he often spoke of his happy family life (he and Miss Allen had four children) in rural Oxfordshire.

Now he has left the shires to live in Annalena's McAfee's pad in Primrose Hill, North London. She won respect for battling through a cancer scare ten years ago. The relationship also signifies a radical change for her: before falling for McEwan's literary charm, she dated an actor who plays one of the hard-nosed Mitchell brothers in *EastEnders* — lads more used to hanging out under car bonnets than in the Groucho Club.

● *Beefy egos are suffering in Rome. Arriving at a restaurant earlier this week, the actor Sylvester Stallone, who has savaged the paparazzi, was greeted not by flashbulbs but by snappers bearing notices reading "We are photographers, not assassins". All efforts to pose were in vain: they simply refused to take his picture.*

State's man

SHOULD Wee Willie Hague manage to produce an heir, his son would be a remarkable human being — the first child of a Tory leader in a thousand years to attend a state school.

"I went to a state school and I would certainly do the same with my own family," he tells me. "There are very many outstanding state schools."

Tory image wonks are clearly determined to make Wee Willie appear even more ordinary than he already does (remember the rum punch at the Notting Hill Carnival in *that* open-necked shirt?)

The patter of tiny Tory feet is usually accompanied by the swish of a housemaster's cane. Margaret Thatcher sent little Mark to Harrow and Carol to St Paul's. Even the classless John Major sent James and Elizabeth to Kimbolton school (£12,800 a year). Ted Heath had no such dilemma.

So, this promises to be young William's first historical achievement. I just hope that his delightful fiancée, Ffion Jenkins (about as smart as they come in Wales), continues to be so understanding.

Not a lot

JUST good enemies seems to be the state of neighbourly relations among the sun-lounger set in Buckinghamshire. Cilla Black, the *Blind Date* presenter, has a difficult relationship with her neighbour, the magician Paul Daniels.

Odd, really, as both would seem to come from the same drawer. But 12 years of living near Miss Black in the village of Denham were enough for Daniels, who has decided to pack up his conjuring-box and move to Berkshire.

"I saw very little of Cilla and never liked her," he says. "She only lived three doors away but she never took part in the local community. She's a strange woman."

Miss Black's remaining neighbours, who include the actor Sir John Mills and the musician Mike Oldfield, might be interested to hear that our Cilla has gone abroad for a while. Ta-ra, chuck.

● *Felsham church, Suffolk, was this week sued after one of its trees crushed the garden of a neighbour, who alleged negligence. The church's unsuccessful defence? It was an "act of God".*

High and dry

COULD this be the end of High Life? Swarthy playboy Taki shocked *Spectator* readers yesterday when he hinted that his column may be leaving the magazine.

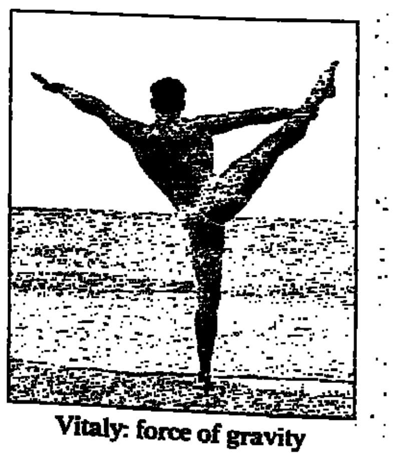
"Low Life is gone and I am not sure if High Life works without it," wrote the despondent scribe, referring to the demise of his sister column after the death of Jeffrey Bernard. But Frank Johnson, Editor of *The Spectator*, says it is a false alarm. "He will carry on, he is just a bit down. Contrary to popular belief, he is quite a modest man."

● *Ever the opportunist in conference season, Tony Blair will follow his Brighton victory parade with a flight to Moscow, neatly timed to coincide with the Tory gathering in Blackpool. Our leader guesses that pictures of him downing shots with Boris will outclass seaside snaps of Wee Willie.*

Bottom line

LIPS moistened at London's Hempel Hotel the other night as guests admired the rippling forms of athletes depicted in Herb Ritts's revealing photographic exhibition.

Baring all for art (if art it be) was Jacqui Agyerpong, a British hurdler, whose uninhibited pose left admirers in little doubt of her athletic prowess. But to the chagrin of female guests, Linford Christie, the 100m Olympic champion much famed for his "lunch-box", said simply: "I don't take my clothes off." Cheeky, this, as his company, Nuff Respect, manages some of the featured athletes. Conversation turned to just how the male models — such as Olympic champion Vitaly Scherbo, whose muscular back and bottom have set many a girl's pulse a-flutter — managed to display their nakedness without presenting their masculine charms for all to admire, so to speak. Colin Jackson, the hurdler, explained that it is a matter of physics: "You lean slightly to one side and let gravity do the work," he said. "Just like a pendulum."



Vitaly: force of gravity

P·H·S

هكذا منذ الاصل

DIANA'S DAY

A permanent memorial is needed for the pilgrims

Ten days ago, we quoted Auden's words: "Let the mourners come." They are still coming. The streets and gardens around Kensington Palace are choked with pilgrims. They come to pray or weep for Diana and her children, to bring thank-offerings for her life and works, or to purge some private grief. Some, too, come just to be part of a great mass happening. Meanwhile, transport and parks authorities struggle to cope with the invasion of the pious and the curious. Even the removal of flowers and messages has had to be essayed with the utmost sensitivity. Old traditions are stirring; perhaps not since the Reformation has Britain witnessed such a pilgrimage, amid scenes that might have been familiar to Chaucer but seem strange to many now.

As the Chancellor of the Exchequer and his committee set about the task of commemorating the Princess one thing is clear. Those who are devoted to Diana need a shrine, one less makeshift than the gates or grounds of Althorp and of the royal palaces. A permanent place of pilgrimage must be established before this unsatisfied hunger turns veneration to acrimony.

London should have a secular monument; it might be sculptural or architectural, or (like the Albert Memorial) both. Kensington Gardens is the obvious site for it, though much depends on the scale and the design. Just as her funeral succeeded in fusing ancient and modern words, classical and popular music, so it should be possible for the nation's talents to create a monument that captures something of the lady's elegance and grace. A public competition should be held, perhaps involving the Prince of Wales. If Gordon Brown were reluctant to allow the Exchequer to pay, the cost could be met jointly from the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and from public subscription.

There may also have to be a more discreet memorial at or near Althorp which, unlike Diana's island grave, would be open all year round. Such a memorial would be best placed in Great Brington Church, where the rest of the Spencers lie, or in its churchyard. If that is not possible, Earl Spencer should give some thought to erecting a chapel of remembrance in the vicinity of Althorp. If it were beyond his means, the memorial fund might contribute. The running costs could be paid out of voluntary contributions, perhaps subsidised by the greatly enlarged revenues which the public can be expected to pay at Althorp itself. The chapel ought to be a holy place, at once accessible and ecumenical, to reflect the fact that her devotees come from all faiths and none.

Diana should be commemorated in time as well as space. One of the best proposals so far is that of creating a new Bank Holiday or perhaps renaming an existing one in Diana's honour. The obvious date would be her birthday on July 1, or the nearest Monday. New Bank Holidays are a macroeconomic luxury, however, and the present Iron Chancellor might veto it. In that case, moving one of the two existing May Bank Holidays to July would have much to recommend it. Some trade unionists and others on the Left would object to the abolition of the May Day holiday, so the Government might prefer to avoid unseemly controversy by moving the other May holiday instead.

Whatever Mr Brown's solution turns out to be, the idea of Diana Day is attractively festive, and not without precedent. On November 17, Elizabeth I's accession day, glasses were raised in memory of Good Queen Bess for decades after her death. Just so should the nation toast the Princess on a bright July day for many years to come.

THE MINE TREATY

The painful journey to a world without landmines

Halfway through the three-week conference in Oslo negotiating an international landmine ban, the Canadians have good reason to be satisfied. The death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has galvanised world opinion into support for a permanent prohibition on the manufacture, sale or use of any anti-personnel landmine, including even those that self-destruct. Lloyd Axworthy, the Canadian Foreign Minister and leading crusader for a world ban, has arrived in Britain from Oslo, and can see for himself how the Princess's campaign has influenced public and government views. More than 100 countries are represented in Oslo, and virtually all are ready to subscribe to the Ottawa principles.

There is one critical exception. America is still demanding the right to maintain mines along the South Korean border to deter an invasion by communist North Korea, one of the world's most unpredictable regimes. President Clinton, bowing to public opinion, not least in thre United Kingdom,has promised that he will sign the treaty. But the Pentagon wants to postpone destruction of its stocks in Korea indefinitely. Mr Axworthy, to his credit, is entertaining no exception: any geographic or strategic exception would negate the force of a treaty, he argues, and lessen the chances of persuading countries and armies still relying on landmines to change their position.

Strategists have pointed to flaws in the American arguments: if any North Korean assault were armour-led, it would be accompanied by mechanised mine-clearing devices against which anti-personnel mines are of no effect. And in more difficult terrain the North Koreans would use "human wave" tactics in which mine casualties would be simply disregarded. America may well change its stance in the coming week; if not, it has until December to accede to the treaty due for signature on September 19. Washington may not want to pass up the chance to make amendment or be seen as a laggard in the wake of its northern neighbour.

Finland is one country not not represented at Oslo: though geography and the Cold War explain such former reliance on mines. More seriously, Russia, China, Pakistan, India and Israel are also absent. The treaty relies on the renunciation of mines by user countries, and a world ban may carry some weight in the sub-continent and Russia. But equally important is the prohibition on the manufacture of these deadly weapons, now deployed in some 60 countries and still killing or maiming about 500 people each week.

China is by far the largest manufacturer, and the main market nowadays is not governments but guerrilla groups and militias fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan or jungles of Cambodia. As long as a steady supply is available, insurgents and separatists will continue to sow these cheap instruments of mutilation and death.

Western strategists are already looking at alternatives to mines. Spy satellites and drones could monitor frontiers, and air-blast bombs could be as deadly a deterrent to aggression. But a comprehensive landmine ban would not end the killingof non-combatants. Estimates put the number of mines already deployed at up to 300 million; in countries such as Angola, Afghanistan and Cambodia farmers and children will be victims for years to come. Some clearance has begun, notably in Kuwait and Bosnia. But even in Egypt the desert is still deadly, and there is virtually no money to make it safe. The Ottawa process cannot stop with a treaty.

SICKLY SWEET

A sweetshop is the first place where children control their lives

If Mars contains intelligent life, then it is well disguised. Certainly contact with this chocolate and toffee planet is taking place at an enormous distance from normal childhood on Earth. As we report today, the Mars confectionery empire is expected to rename its old favourite Opal Fruits. The fruity, chewy sweet will be known as "Star Bursts" in future.

This decision will allow the company to exploit the same brand name worldwide. It will make economies of scale by standardising a single advertising and sponsorship strategy. It swims with the tide of globalisation. But the marketing moguls do not give a gobstopper or an effervescent sherbet fountain that they are striking a blow against traditional values. To buy sweets is a child's first chance to spend pocket money; a child's first adventure into the world of commerce. And children remain conservative about the sweet poetry of their childhood names.

This is not the first time that the men from Mars have displayed soulless tendencies. A few years ago Marathon — the chocolate bar packed full of peanuts — was renamed Snickers for standardisation. The contrast of nomenclature was an oxymoron. The eponym Marathon suggested heroism in battle and on the running-track, even the birth of civilization when honey was the only sweet. Marathon was a name with legs. Whereas Snickers, which is recorded in no dictionary, has no poetry; except possibly to assist in the composition of juvenile limericks. Now the poor Opal Fruit is to suffer the same indignity. The name may not be quite classical, but it still conjures up images of beauty. It does actually, if not entirely accurately, describe an attribute of the product. For the sweet has iridescent colours, even if the gemstone would be hard on the teeth. Star Bursts, on the other hand, is a completely artificial construction. It sounds like a television talent competition.

The Slough-based sweet superpower would be unwise to treat the sensitivities of its customers so lightly. Ask an adult about Snickers and all you will receive is a look of Trivial Pursuit bemusement. Mention Smarties, however, and a sentimental conversation will follow. Such preferences are transferred across the generations. Mars executives may find in this case that they have bitten off more than they can chew.

If Mars continues with these tactics it will put itself out of business. In North America the Mars Bar does not exist but the company retails a very similar product. This is called Milky Way, which is somewhat different from the variety we know in Britain. According to its current fiendish plans, the corporation should logically axe the Mars Bar and then rename itself Milky Way Limited, Slough. Mars plc was founded 65 years ago but its marketing men have chosen to act more like impetuous teenagers than pensioners. Are these people off their wrappers?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Reality' of West Bank occupation

From Mr John Rowe

Sir, As a recent visitor to the occupied West Bank, I was concerned to read in your leading article ("Under siege", September 8) that "The Palestinian leader has been too ambiguous for too long in his approach towards the extremists". Expecting Arafat to "decommission terrorism within the territory he controls" — a feat not yet achieved even by the British Government in Northern Ireland — merely obscures the uncomfortable reality that Hamas has flourished under the conditions of mass pauperisation and injustice which Israel has imposed on the territories.

Hamas is a highly professional and discreet organisation; there are no easy targets on the West Bank. Another programme of the extra-judicial murder, arbitrary arrest and detention of terrorist "suspects" and ordinary Palestinians on the scale currently being called for by the Israeli Government will not result in the peace with security promised by Mr Netanyahu, regardless of whether the clampdown is carried out by the IDF or Arafat's private army.

You laid much emphasis on Israel's "agony" in the Lebanon and its right to security; no mention was made of the no less valid rights of Palestinians and Lebanese civilians. Given the carnage wreaked in Lebanon over the years by the Israeli Army and Air Force, and the continuing abuse of human rights in the occupied territories, this seems fundamentally unjust.

Justice, not collective reprisal and further repression, is the only long-term basis for security; until Israelis accept this and the facts of the occupation Madeleine Albright is wasting her time.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN ROWE,
10 Station Road, Parbold, Lancashire.
September 10.

Blair and the unions

From Mr Peter Wood

Sir, It is unfortunate that the Prime Minister's address to the TUC (reports and leading article, September 10) should lean so insistently on such an inadequate notion as "the real world", especially when he insisted that "influence with this Government and with me is not determined by anything other than the persuasiveness of your arguments". Davie Patton of the Fire Brigades Union saw not persuasiveness but threat.

Even if that is putting it too strongly, Mr Blair was certainly not relying on persuasive argument to convince the unions, rather the well-developed, inhumane — because incomplete and one-sided — market rhetoric to which the Archbishop's much-reviled but careful address ("Brothers berate Carey over brethren", Business, September 10) was a useful corrective.

To agree broadly with Mr Blair is not to endorse the terrible conceit of modern enlightenment which animates his message.

Yours faithfully,
PETER WOOD,
Newbold Farm,
Duntisbourne Abbots,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
je2S@dial.pipex.com
September 10.

From the General Secretary of the TUC

Sir, May I clarify your report ("Anger at privatisation by back door", September 11) of the TUC's debate on the Private Finance Initiative.

Two motions were presented to Congress for discussion. The first said that the PFI should not be relied upon to underpin the renewal of public services. It did not rule out all forms of public/private partnerships. This motion was carried unanimously. The second motion was opposed in principle to PFI and any private investment in public services. The General Council recommended that Congress should oppose rejecting PFI in principle, and it was defeated following a card vote.

The discussion was certainly lively and real concern was expressed about the operation of the PFI, particularly in the National Health Service. However, Congress did not agree to opposed PFI in principle or to "mount a challenge" to PFI in all circumstances.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MONKS,
General Secretary, TUC,
As from: Congress House,
Great Russell Street, WC1.
September 11.

Business letters, page 27

Fate of the Battersbys

From Mrs Brenda Hoatson

Sir, You report today that Jack Straw has announced tough new measures to deal with neighbourhood bullies. Is this the only way we can get the message through to *Coronation Street*'s producer that the neighbours from hell (letters, September 2 and 9) are not wanted?

If he wants realism, let the residents call in the police and find out how tough these measures really are.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDA HOATSON,
56 Meadway, Liverpool 15.
bhoatson@clara.net
September 10.

Banana ban threat in the Caribbean

From Mr Christopher Booker

Sir, Your Brussels correspondent is right (report, September 9) to highlight the very alarming threat now hanging over various small Caribbean islands if the World Trade Organisation confirms its proposed ban on the preferential arrangements whereby they can export their bananas to Europe. But the plight of former British islands like Dominica and St Lucia should not be confused with that of "former . . . French colonies".

As maritime *départements* of France, islands such as Martinique and Guadeloupe are part of the European Union. This means that not only will they be able to continue exporting their bananas to Europe, but under the common agricultural policy will continue to be subsidised by EU taxpayers.

British taxpayers thus face the anomaly that, while we can do nothing to help banana growers in our own former colonies, we must continue to subsidise their French neighbours.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BOOKER,
The Old Rectory, Litton, Bath.
September 9.

From Mrs Glenys Kinnock, MEP for South Wales East (Party of European Socialists Group (Labour)), and others

Sir, While the EU considers how to respond to the World Trade Organisation ruling which could spell ruin for Caribbean banana-growing states, there is one thing British consumers can do: buy Caribbean bananas. Those sold in Britain are 5-Isles, Geest, JP and Fyffes.

Shoppers could also fill in customer comment forms, available in most supermarkets, asking the supermarkets to give consumers the choice of buying Caribbean bananas.

The WTO ruling will not benefit free trade — it will only reinforce the dominance of bananas grown by American multinationals on huge plantations in Central and South America. The impact on Caribbean states is likely to be very damaging. Without the banana boats other exports and vital imports will become more expensive to transport. Without vital banana export earnings these island democracies could soon become dependent on aid or, as your report suggested, drug cultivation.

Yours faithfully,
GLENYS KINNOCK
DAVID THOMAS,
TERRY WYN,
European Parliament,
97 rue Belliard, Brussels B-1047.
September 9.

From Mr John Harrison

Sir, If the WTO ban is heeded, it will wreck the fragile economies of the islands and probably cause political instability.

As the total banana output of the Caribbean islands is less than 5 per cent of that coming from Central America and the northern republics of South America, the European subsidy is hardly unfair. The importance of banana exports to the islands is that it provides between 40 and 80 per cent of their total revenue, the highest figures for the islands without high tourism.

As half the islands are in the British Commonwealth the withdrawal of the subsidy may give the UK significant aid costs.

Yours,
JOHN HARRISON,
31 Aylesbury Road, Bedford.
September 10.

Treasury and Church

From Mr Robert Leach

Sir, As the Treasury announces its tax rebate for *Candle in the Wind*, perhaps I could point out how it has treated the Church of England, in whose building this song was premiered.

In the last 20 years, the Church has been hit twice by the move to indirect taxation. The reduction in the basic rate of tax from 35 per cent to 23 per cent has reduced the tax reclaimed on covenants from 54 per cent to 30 per cent, while irrecoverable VAT has more than doubled from 8 per cent to 17.5 per cent on purchases by the Church of everything from cathedral maintenance to candles.

VAT has been added to church extensions, heating and bells. The 50 per cent local authority tax relief for vicarages has been scrapped. Insurance-premium tax has been introduced, costing the Church over £1 million.

These changes alone account for an estimated extra £21 million per year in tax.

The last Budget removed the tax credit for pension funds, which will cost another £17 million a year.

The Treasury can easily afford to give back £1 million to Princess Diana's charity. They can fund it from the extra £38 million tax paid by the Church of England.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT LEACH,
19 Chestnut Avenue,
Epsom, Surrey.
September 11.

School pets

From Mrs Elizabeth Ormerod

Sir, I am perturbed to learn that education officials in Aberdeen are considering a ban on school pets (report, August 28).

Research presented at an international conference in Geneva in 1995 on human-animal interactions showed that the presence of classroom pets can have many positive effects on child development. These include improved self-esteem, higher academic achievement and better social skills. Children also have the opportunity to develop an understanding of and compassion for creatures more vulnerable than themselves, which helps them to develop empathy for other people. A school pet programme can also be successful in counteracting vandalism and truancy.

As a veterinary surgeon, I share concerns about the few instances of poor pet-keeping. However, there are many more examples of good practice. Let us draw on these to develop standards for the appropriate selection and care of animals and their integration into the school curriculum.

In our increasingly urbanised and computerised society it is most important that children have opportunities to experience the companionship of animals. They are a vital link with the natural world. Computers cannot replace contact with living, sentient creatures and will certainly not help our children to develop compassion.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH ORMEROD,
The Mount Veterinary Surgery,
1 Harris Street,
Fleetwood, Lancashire.
September 1.

A-level lit crit

From Mrs Sharon Footerman

Sir, Michael Cole (letter, August 29; see also letter, August 20) is over-generous in assuming that an A-level candidate would need to commit to memory a correctly punctuated "catch-all" closing sentence.

All A-level literature candidates are required to take copies of their set texts into the examination room. The blank pages and margins of these texts may be annotated with handwritten notes. Many candidates pack the blank spaces in their texts with "notes" ranging from page references for quotations to complete model answers on key topics.

This saves the candidate from the stresses of memorising anything and, indeed, of doing any real thinking at all.

Yours faithfully,
SHARON FOOTERMAN,
6 Woodward Avenue, Hendon, NW4.
August 29.

A lovesome thing

From Mr Robert Hargreaves

Sir, Readers who advocate wilder gardens (Mr John Brookes's letter, August 27) should remember the country vicar who greeted one of his toiling parishioners with the remark: "It's a wonderful thing that God can do with a garden."

"Maybe so, Vicar," replied the gardener. "But you should have seen it when He had it to Himself".

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT HARGREAVES,
Backfield Place,
Winchelsea,
East Sussex.
August 28.

Latin misconstrued

From Dr Leofranc Holford-Strevens

Sir, The inscription from Caesarea Maritima published in your earlier editions today is mistranscribed and mistranslated.

The top line is omitted, and the second is given as "adiviorib", which is gibberish.

Either the second I is a mistake for T or the crossbar has worn off. Bearing in mind the Roman taste for abbreviation, we get:

SPES BONA
ADIVTORIB(us)
OFFICI
CVSTODIAR(um)

"Good hope to the adjutants of the Office of the Watch."

Yours faithfully,
LEOFRANC HOLFORD-STREVENS,
67 St Bernard's Road, Oxford.
aulus@gellius.demon.co.uk
September 10.

Vultures' return

From Mr C. J. Wilmoth

Sir, The reintroduction of the bearded vulture to the French Alps (letter, September 10) may well "lift the spirits of conservationists". I am not so sure it will do the same for injured skiers.

Yours sincerely,
C. J. WILMOTH,
2 Bould Farm Cottages,
Bould, Idbury,
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.
September 10.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

US salute to earl's powerful tribute

From Mr Todd Victor Leone

Sir, In the whole of my 45 years, I have never been as deeply affected by the death of someone I never met as by that of Diana, Princess of Wales. I have never been as deeply moved by a funeral.

As a member of the Anglican communion, I have long maintained that no religious tradition is better at devising liturgies in the English language. I commend your honorable Prime Minister for his inspiring reading of I Corinthians xiii.

But the most inspiring experience of the entire service was Earl Spencer's tribute. I am not often given to standing ovations while viewing television by myself, but I was compelled to rise and applaud. If only all sermons in all pulpits could be as powerful, as effective, as liberating, as accurate in aim.

Earl Spencer doubtless chose to speak his truth and live with the consequences, if any. I salute him for his courage and his honesty.

Sincerely,
TODD VICTOR LEONE,
1690 Broadway,
San Francisco, CA 94109-2418.
todd1952@pacbell.net
September 9.

Value of protocol

From Rear-Admiral J. P. W. Middleton

Sir, Protocol has been much in the news in the past week, usually with a suggestion that it inhibits change, or makes impossible some otherwise desirable activity.

Protocol has two aims: to formalise the application of good manners, so that no one is embarrassed or surprised, and to establish best practice, based on relevant experience.

Protocol did very well last week. It laid down guidelines for the conduct of a great human activity, and allowed an enormously complex exercise to proceed with exemplary dignity and exactitude. The much trumpeted, but relatively minor departures from the rubric were only possible because so much of the ceremony was already decided, allowing time to consider carefully the proposed changes.

Thus protocol encourages deviation and can properly be considered to be a liberating framework of reference rather than a confining straitjacket.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MIDDLETON,
Manora, Chilmark, Wiltshire.
September 8.

From Mrs M. E. Richards

Sir, Those who clamour for a change to the monarchy would be well advised to reflect on the resulting bitterness and division caused by the "modernisation" of the Anglican Church.

It does not augur well for the future if stability and security are to be undermined in order to accommodate the fashion of the day. Change inevitably occurs over the generations, but it must happen in a responsible and sensible way, and for the right reasons.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET RICHARDS,
West Adderbury,
Banbury, Oxfordshire.

Protecting minors

From Mr Robin Spon-Smith

Sir, I believe that Lord Donaldson of Lymington (letter, today) is mistaken. The inherent jurisdiction of the High Court with respect to minors can be exercised without making the child concerned a ward of court.

This was recognised by Lord Donaldson's predecessor, Lord Denning, in a judgment (*Re L*) given in 1968. It is now well understood amongst family law practitioners that wardship proceedings are a convenient, but not essential, method of invoking the inherent jurisdiction.

It would therefore be possible for the Prince of Wales (or, in theory, any other person) to apply to the High Court for orders to protect his sons from intrusive publicity without the necessity of making them wards of court.

The making of such orders would appear to go beyond what the High Court has hitherto been prepared to do in the exercise of its inherent jurisdiction, but the jurisdiction is a highly flexible one, theoretically unlimited in its scope, and is open to judicial development.

Yours truly,
ROBIN SPON-SMITH,
1 Mitre Court Buildings,
Temple, EC4.
rsponsmith@compuserve.com
September 9.

A blow for monarchy

From Mr John Montgomery

Sir, Thank you for the photograph on your front page today showing one of "The People" thumping Johnny Foreigner on the jaw. I have been wondering just who they might be, these "People", of whom one hears so much lately and for whom, so we are told, the monarchy must be modernised. Now I think I know.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MONTGOMERY,
10 Belmont Hall Court,
Belmont Grove, SE13.
September 11.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 11: The Duke of York, Trustee, this morning attended a meeting of the Trustees, of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 11: The Prince Edward, President, the Commonwealth Games Federation, this evening left Heathrow Airport, London, for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer is in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 11: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester today departed Heathrow Airport, London, to carry out engagements in Luxembourg.

Sir John Margetson (Special Representatives of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and took leave of Their Royal Highnesses.

The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this afternoon opened St George's International School's new premises at rue des Marguerites and afterwards visited the Musée d'Histoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, rue du Saint-Esprit.

This evening Their Royal Highnesses attended a Dinner given by His Excellency Mr John Elam (Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) and Mrs Elam at the British Embassy, Boulevard Roosevelt.

Mrs Howard Page and Major Nicholas Barne are in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
September 11: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning attended the opening of the City of London Financial Services Seminar in Nizhny Novgorod and this afternoon attended a Reception for recipients of British Government awards and scholarships at the British Embassy, Moscow, Russia.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
September 11: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this afternoon visited the University of Aberdeen's Department of Ophthalmology for "Saving Sight in Grampian" at the Medical School, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, and was received by Mr Richard Ellis (Deputy Lieutenant of the City of Aberdeen).

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Mr Iain Macintyre to be a Surgeon to Her Majesty in Scotland in succession to Sir David Carter.

Birthdays today

Mr Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland, 43; Miss Maria Aitken, actress, 52; Sir Lindsay Alexander, former deputy chairman, Lloyds Bank, 77; Viscount Allendale, 75; Mr Nicholas Barter, Principal, RADA, 57; Colonel Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, KT, former Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness, 87; Mr Alan Cathcart, chairman and chief executive, Avis, Europe, 54; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Compston, 82; Professor Ronald Hedley, educationist, 80; Mr Ian Holm, actor, 66; Lord Milner of Leeds, 74; the Right Rev Alan Rogers, former Bishop of Mauritius, 90; the Right Rev Frank Pilkington Sargeant, Bishop at Lambeth, 65; Mr Robert Simpson, chief executive, Press Association, 53; Sir Arthur Sugden, former chief executive officer, Cooperative Wholesale Society, 79; Sir Gervas Walker, former chairman, Association of County Councils, 77; Professor George Zarnecki, FBA, art historian, 82.

Dinner

Woolwich plc
The Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Eddie George, was guest of honour at the 150th Anniversary dinner of the Woolwich, held last night at the Royal Artillery, Woolwich. Sir Brian Jenkins, Chairman of Woolwich plc, presided and Mr Alan McLintock also spoke.

Reception

Lord McGregor of Durris
Lord McGregor of Durris entertained St Mark's Hospital and St Mark's Academic Institute at a reception in the House of Lords yesterday. Professor John Nicholls, Clinical Director, Mr James Thomson, former Clinical Director and Mr John Sadler, CBE, Chairman of The Marksman Appeal for research into bowel disorders, also spoke. Those present included:

Lord and Lady Brownlow, Lord Butterfield, Baroness Cumberlege, Baroness Jay of Paddington, Lord and Lady McColl of Dulwich, Lady McGregor of Durris, Lady Riches, the Right Hon Virginia Bottomley, Mr Gareth Thomas, MP, Mr Gary Ward, Mrs Anna Shah, and Mrs Angela Heath, non executive directors, and Mr Michael Cole, Chief Executive, Northwick Park and St Mark's Hospitals NHS Trust, the Hon C.E. Cecil, Chairman of the City of London Club, Professor Michael Edwards, Chairman of St Mark's Academic Institute, Professor Christopher Edwards, Principal, and other representatives of Imperial College School of Medicine, members of the Board of Patrons of St Mark's Hospital and Academic Institute, members of staff and friends of St Mark's and Northwick Park Hospitals.

Supper

Wigmore Hall International Song Competition
Dr Ralph Kohn (Chairman) and Mrs Kohn entertained members of the jury and committee to buffet supper at home last night. Among those present were:

Dame Margaret Price, Miss Elisabeth Söderström, Mr Rudolf Jansen, Mr Graham Johnson, Mr William Lyne, Mr Frederick Noonan, Mr Peter Schreier, Mr Antony Forwood and Miss Virginia Harding.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Herbert Henry Asquith, 1st Earl of Oxford and Asquith, Prime Minister 1908-16, Morley, Yorkshire, 1852; H.L. Mencken, writer, Baltimore, Maryland, 1880; Maurice Chevalier, singer, Paris, 1888; Louis MacNeice, poet, Belfast, 1907; Jesse Owens, athlete, Danville, Alabama, 1913.

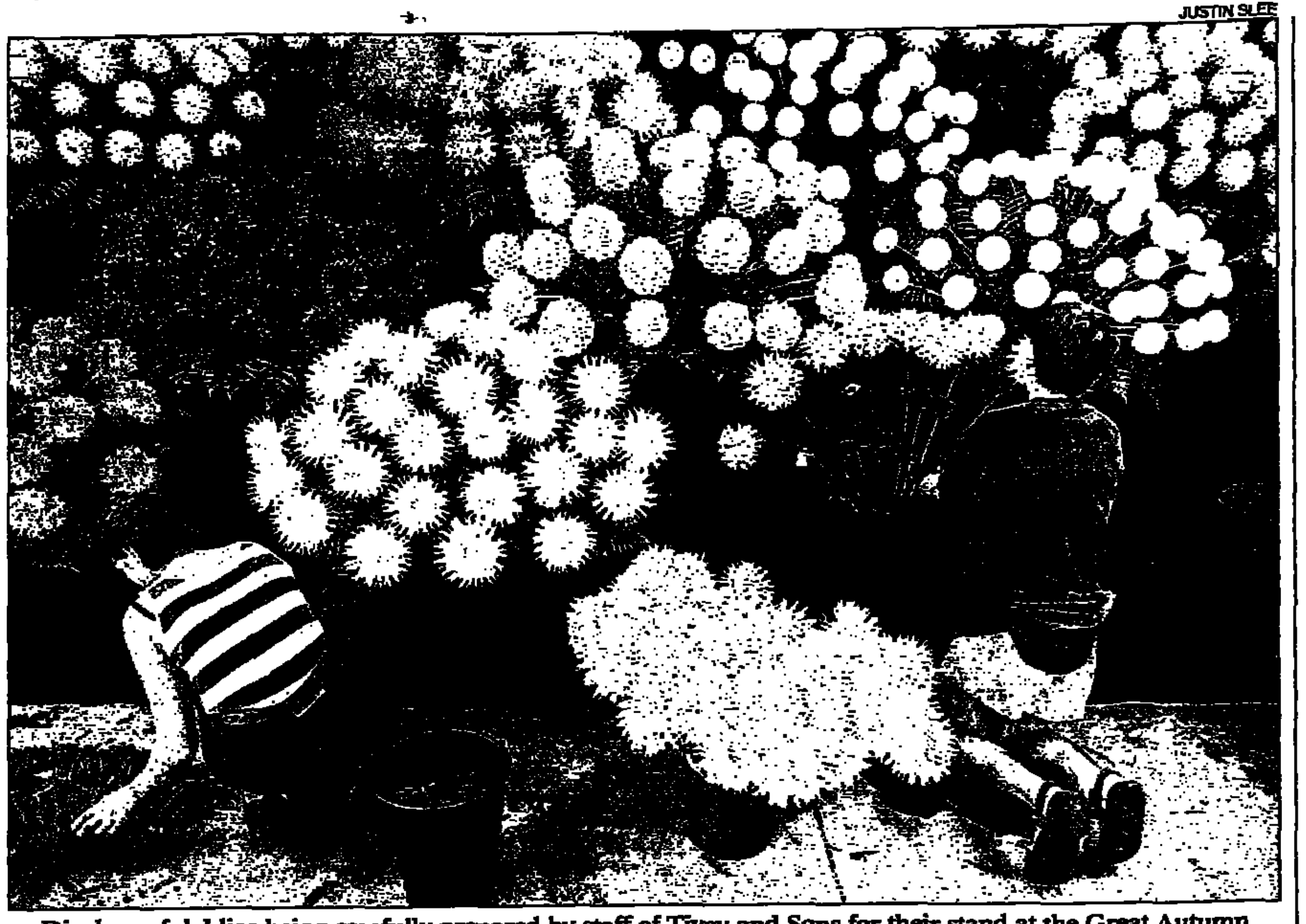
DEATHS: François Couperin (Le Grand), harpsichordist, Paris, 1733; Gebhard von Blucher, field marshal, Silesia, 1819; Robert Lowell, poet, New York, 1977.

Cleopatra's Needle was erected on the Thames Embankment, London, 1878.

Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia was deposed by a military coup, 1974.

Steve Biko, first president of the South African Students Organisation, died in a prison hospital, Pretoria, 1977.

JUSTIN SLEE



Displays of dahlias being carefully prepared by staff of Tivey and Sons for their stand at the Great Autumn Show which opens at Harrogate today

Piping

Sun shines on a winning march

By Angus Nicol

WHETHER it is fine or there is horizontal driven rain, or a thunderstorm, or Side Nan Seachd Sian on the Thursday of the Argyllshire Gathering the games and the piping go on. But in spite of a forecast of steady rain, the day remained dry and sunny.

The winner of the Gold Medal traditionally acts as pipe-major for the march of the president, stewards, and members of the Gathering through Oban to Mossfield Park. James Murray and a contingent of the 80 pipers competing on the second day piped them along that half-mile march.

There is a new and efficient system for the Thursday competitions, of which there are five: the A and B-grade marches, A and B-grade strathspey and reel, and the jigs, which are open to all comers. Having played his march, the competitor goes straight to the strathspey and reel platform, and thence to the jigs. The system worked well, with no delays occurring. In fact it was almost too good, as the piping came to an end earlier than usual.

The competitions began with the local marches, and strathspey and reel. "Local" means resident in or connected with Argyll, or serving in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. There is always a shortage of local pipers, mainly because, until a year ago, piping was not taught in the primary schools. But now about 70 pupils in the primary schools in Oban are being taught regularly by Pipe Major Ronald Lawrie, and the cost is borne equally between the Argyllshire Gathering Piping Trust and Argyll and Bute Council. It is hoped that this joint venture will be extended beyond Oban.

The local march was won by Paul Tweedley. Gillian Campbell, who came second in the march, won the local strathspey and reel, and also the prize for the best local piper.

In the A grade, the march competition, and with it the Royal Scottish Pipers' Society's bronze star, was won by Iain Speirs, and the strathspey and reel and the Angus John MacNeil and Barra Cup by Ian K. MacDonald. The B-grade march was won by Private Ian Finlayson, and Mark Wemyss took first prize for strathspey and reel.

The jig competition was won by Sergeant Gordon Walker. Together with his prize in the march, strathspey and reel, Sergeant Walker collected enough points to win the Lorne Campbell of Airds VC trophy for the best army piper.

Full results:

Local march: 1, Paul Tweedley; 2, Gillian Campbell; 3, Iain MacIntyre. **Judges:** Ronald Morrison, Joe Henderson, Edward Clarke.

Local strathspey and reel: 1, Gillian Campbell; 2, Iain MacIntyre; 3, William MacIntyre. **Judges:** Andrew Wright, William MacDonald (Benbecula), James Burnet.

March A: 1, Iain Speirs; 2, Ian K. MacDonald; 3, Niall Matheson; 4, Douglas Murray; 5, Stuart Liddell. **Judges:** P/M Ronald Lawrie, James Young, Finlay MacNeil.

Strathspey and reel A: 1, Ian K. MacDonald; 2, Iain Speirs; 3, Scott Drummond; 4, Stuart Liddell; 5, Roderick MacLeod. **Judges:** Neil Mulvie, Alan Forbes, P/M Brian Donaldson.

March B: 1, Pte Ian Finlayson; 2, Graham Roy; 3, Neil Walker; 4, Peter Hunt, 5, Leslie Hunt. **Judges:** Ronald Morrison, Joe Henderson, Edward Clarke.

Strathspey and reel B: 1, Mark Wemyss; 2, Neil Walker; 3, Yvonne MacKenzie; 4, James McHardie; 5, Pte Ian Finlayson. **Judges:** Andrew Wright, William MacDonald (Benbecula), James Burnet.

Jigs: 1, Sgt Gordon Walker; 2, Douglas Murray; 3, Alan Bevan. **Judges:** Malcolm MacRae, John Allen, P/M Angus MacDonald.

Church appointments

The Rev John Hargreaves, Team Vicar, Daventry (Holy Cross), Ashby St Ledgers, Braunston, Catesby, Hellidon, Staverton and Welton (Peterborough): has been appointed Priest-in-Charge, Pinxton (Derby).

The Rev Tony Hart, Vicar, Easingwold w Raskelfe (York): to be also Rural Dean of Easingwold (same diocese).

The Rev Brian Hartley, Team Vicar, East Farnworth and Kearsley (Manchester): to be Team Rector, New Bury (same diocese).

The Rev Michael Hatton, Vicar, Middleton St Cross (Ripon): to be Vicar, Ingol St Margaret (Blackburn).

The Rev Frank Howard, Rector, Stanton (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich): to be half-time Team Vicar, Hempnall (Norwich).

The Rev David Howell, Curate, Leicester St Aidan (Leicester): to be Priest-in-Charge, Edvin Loach (St Mary) w Tedstone Delamere, Tedstone Wafer, Upper Sapey, Wolferflow and Whitbourne (Hereford).

The Rev Robert Hutchings, NSM Curate, Husbands Bosworth w. Mowsley and Knaptoft and Theddingworth (Leicester): to be NSM Assistant Priest to the Archdeacon of Lancaster (same diocese).

Senior naval appointment

Admiral Sir John Brigstocke will become the Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command at a formal change of command ceremony onboard his flagship *HMS Victory* on September 19.

Admiral Brigstocke takes over from Admiral Sir Michael Boyce who is to become Commander-in-Chief Fleet at Northwood.

University news

Glasgow
The following have been promoted to the rank of professor from October 1:

Dr Annie Anderson, Psychology
Dr Anna Dominiczak, Medicine and Therapeutics
Dr Alan Ervine, Civil Engineering
Dr Gwyn Gould, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dr Barry Jones, Psychology
Dr Mike MacMahon, English Language
Dr Patricia Monaghan, Environmental and Evolutionary Biology
Mr Michael Moss, Archives
Dr Ronan Paddison, Geography and Topographic Science
Mr R.F. Stalley, Philosophy
Mr Mark Ward, Dean of the Faculty of Arts

Armourers & Brasiers

The Company of Armourers & Brasiers 1997 joint sponsorships with British Alcan Aluminium for undergraduates studying Materials Science or Materials Engineering have been awarded to:

Mr Andrew Hogwood, Oxford University
Mr Mark Moore, Manchester University and UMIST
Mr Ricky Short, Sheffield University
Mr Iain Galloway, Strathclyde University.

New judge

Mr Charles Bloom, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Northern Circuit.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr D.M. Feldman
and Miss A.M. Hindhaugh**
The engagement is announced between David Martin, only son of Carol and Stanley Feldman, of Chelsea, London, and Anna Marie, eldest daughter of Sue and Jim Hindhaugh, of Bearsden, Glasgow.

**Mr C.A.G. Forestier-Walker
and Miss N. Tinto**
The engagement is announced between Charles Aidan Gwent, son of the late Mr Gwent Forestier-Walker and of Mrs Elizabeth Ann Forestier-Walker, of Clifford, Herefordshire, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald A.F. Tinto, of Mallorca, Baleares.

**Mr W.R. Garrard
and Miss J.L. Rostron**
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Neil Garrard, of Bath, and Janey, daughter of Mr and Mrs Laurence Rostron, of Lacey Green, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr T.M.S. Hewitt
and Miss V.L. Salmon**
The engagement is announced between Timothy, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Hewitt, of Teddington, Middlesex, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Salmon, of Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr L.A. Kunzig IV
and Miss P.K. Baker**
The engagement is announced between Louis, son of Mr and Mrs Louis Kunzig III, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Baker, of Knockholt, Kent.

**Mr F.P.M. McCabe
and Miss A.C. Lambourne**
The engagement is announced between Finbarr, elder son of the late Mr Stanislaus McCabe and of Mrs McCabe, of Dorney, Berkshire, and Arabella, only daughter of the late Mr William Lambourne and of Mrs Gaye Thorogood, of Clifford, Herefordshire.

**Mr S.L. McNeill-Ritchie
and Miss Z.T.S. Everest-Phillips**
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mrs Valerie Graham, stepson of Mr Keith Graham, of Port of Menteith, Perthshire, and Zoë, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Everest-Phillips, of Sidmouth, Devon.

**Mr P.J. North
and Miss A.J. Teo**
The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Dr and Mrs Michael North, of Pinley Green, Warwickshire, and Ai June, daughter of Mr and Mrs Teo Ek Hoon, of Singapore.

**Mr O. Slot
and Miss J. Mellstrom**
The engagement is announced between Owen, elder son of His Honour Judge and Mrs Peter Slot, of Betchworth, Surrey, and Juliet, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Mellstrom, of Bramshott, Hampshire.

**Mr M.C.N. Townend
and Miss K.L. Pearce**
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr Ian Townend and of Mrs Townend, of Goring, West Sussex, and Karenza, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Pearce, of Penn, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr I.A.J. Stoppani
and Miss J.A. Bird**
The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mr John Stoppani and the late Mrs Hélène Stoppani, of Balcombe, West Sussex, and Julia, youngest daughter of Mr William Bird, of Claygate, Surrey, and Mrs Margaret Kern, of Santa Barbara, California.

**Captain P.P. Tennant, RA,
and Miss C.A. Charteris**
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Major General M.T. Tennant, CB, of Middle Green and the late Mrs M.T. Tennant, and Camilla, elder daughter of Lieutenant Colonel J.A. Charteris, MBE, MC, and Mrs J.A. Charteris, of Cullivait, Dumfries.

**Mr H.J.P. Turnbull
and Miss S.L. Robbins**
The engagement is announced between Harry, only son of Mr and Mrs Oliver Turnbull, of Windermere, Cumbria, and Sarah-Louise, eldest daughter of Ms C. Judge, of East Bridgford, Nottinghamshire.

Marriages

**Mr E.G. Walsh
and Miss S. Kluger**
The marriage took place on Thursday, September 11, in the Chapel of the Ville Pontifice in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, of Mr Edward Walsh, son of Mr Stephen Walsh, of London, and Mme France Moinet, of Paris, to Miss Stefania Kluger, daughter of Mrs Linda J. Kluger, of Rome, Italy. His Holiness Pope John Paul II officiated.

**Mr A.J.C. Craigie
and Miss C.A. Farey**
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 6, at the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Salisbury, of Mr Angus Craigie, elder son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Andrew Craigie, of Salisbury, and Miss Caroline Farey, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Robin Farey, of Winchester. The Right Rev Bishop John Cavell, grandfather of the bridegroom, officiated.

**Mr J.D. Duckworth
and Miss C.E.F. Fordham**
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 30, 1997, in Pembrokeshire at St Mary's Church, Carew Cheriton, between Mr Jeremy Duckworth and Miss Kitty Fordham, followed by a reception at Cresselly House.

**Major N.J. Mercer
and Miss D.A. Holliman**
The marriage took place on Thursday, September 11, in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, of Major Nicholas Mercer, elder son of Mr and Mrs Terence Mercer, of Markington, North Yorkshire, to Miss Dawn Aurora Holliman, elder daughter of the Venerable Archdeacon J.J. and Mrs Holliman, of Tidworth, Wiltshire. The Right Rev John Kirkham, MA, Bishop to Her Majesty's Forces, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Catherine Cornwall-Walker. Mr Christopher Nason was best man.

A reception was held at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Latest wills

William Henry **Hargrave**, of Spalding, Lincolnshire, left estate valued at £3,694,607 net.

Henry **Curtis**, of Stanton Wick, Pensford, Bristol, left estate valued at £1,498,864 net.

Patrick Newey **Dodsworth**, of Sidcot, Somerset, left estate valued at £1,119,396 net.

Winifred Joan **Fearnside**, of Shurlock Row, Reading, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,080,892 net.

She left £50,000 each to the World Wildlife Fund, the National Trust, Cancer Research Campaign and the Samaritans.

Elizabeth **Hainsworth**, of Loughrigg, Ambleside, Cumbria, left estate valued at £1,535,007 net.

Bridget Vyvian **James**, of London W10, £1,692,952 net.

Joyce Adelaide **Kilsby**, of Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £1,089,168 net.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Seek good and not evil, that you may live, that the Lord, the God of Hosts, may be with you as you claim he is.
Amos 5 : 14

BIRTHS

BETSCHART - On September 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Michaela and Stefan, a beautiful daughter, Rachel Vanessa.

BLENKO - On September 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Marcia and Don, a son, Nicholas, a brother for Sarah and Katie.

BROADHURST - On September 9th at St Thomas' Hospital, London, to Nicola and Andrew, a son, James William Robert.

CATER - On September 5th, to Sarah (née Manhood) and David, a daughter, Madeleine Helena Alice.

COLEBROOK-TAYLOR - On September 9th 1997 at 4.56am, to Amanda (née Smith) and Jeremy, a beautiful daughter, Charlotte Jane - 8lbs 3oz, a sister for Hannah.

COWEY - On 29th August 1997, to Jane and Colin, a daughter, Madeleine Eleanor, a sister for William.

CURTIN - On 9th September 1997 at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Lilias and Richard, a son, Seamus Walter.

ELLIS - On 10th September 1997 at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, to Charlotte and Antony, a son, Harry Oliver Buster.

JONES - On September 7th in Oxford, to Juliet (née Berrisford) and Alan, a daughter, Jemima Florence Nonco-Kivell.

KELHAM - On 4th September, to Jules (née Bartella) and David, a son, Theodore Henry Richard.

McKEEVER - On 4th September 1997, to Rachel (née Williamson) and Luke, a daughter, Hope Cecelia.

NICHOLSON - On September 11th, to Janie (née Wallace) and James, a son, Maxim Ian (Max).

SATCHELL - On September 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Samantha (née Angus) and Jonathan, a daughter, Saskia Jade.

SELLERS - On September 1st, to Melissa (née Critchley) and Andrew, a son, Felix Nicholas Charles.

TOLLEMACHE - On September 11th 1997, to Amanda (née Phillips) and Richard, a daughter, Alice Mary.

BIRTHS

zh
BEARDMORE - On 9th September in Victoria, British Columbia, to Katy (née Manning) and Paul, a son, Thomas Alexander Henry.

DEATHS

BEASLEY - Ronald Walter, M.B.E. (MIL), Solicitor, Notary Public. Died September 10th aged 84 years. Loving husband of Elizabeth and much loved father of Peter, Richard, Sarah, Christian and dear grandfather to Rebecca, John, Hannah and Rachel. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Cowes, on Friday 19th September at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Enquiries F.L. Lloyd Funeral Directors, tel: (01983) 293716.

BOTTERILL - Vanessa Jacqueline Sinclair, aged 24 suddenly but peacefully at Nakuru, Kenya on September 7th. Deeply loved and greatly missed daughter and sister of Christina, Paul, Clare, Hugh and Sam, friend of Harry and everyone who knew her. Funeral Service 11am Tuesday September 16th at St Peter's Church, Copdock, Suffolk. No flowers please but, if desired, donations for either Save the Children or Shelter may be sent c/o R. Gwinnell & Sons, 77 High Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 5DY.

CAMBER - Dr. B. Peacefully at the Royal Free Hospital, London on the 8th September 1997. Sadly missed by Melinda, Lynne, Nard, Anne, Seonaid and all his family. Service at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, London NW11 at 12 noon on Sunday 14th September.

CHABOWSKI - Adam Julian Phd., M.I.C.E., MIStructE., aged 76, peacefully on 7th September at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. Beloved husband of Joy, dear father of Christopher, Michael and Helen and loving grandfather. Requiem Mass, Wednesday 17th September, 1 pm, at Christ the King, Kinson, Bournemouth followed by cremation at Poole Crematorium at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations to Royal Bournemouth Hospital. R.I.P. Enquiries to George Scott & Son, 01202 395827.

CHURCH - Diana Mary Lloyd (née Mawson) aged 85 years died peacefully in her sleep following a stroke courageously borne. She was the loved wife of the late Eric Edmund Raitt Church (British Council). We give thanks for her life and generous love so freely given to all who knew her. Funeral Service to take place on Wednesday 17th September 1997 at Gt St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth at 10 am followed by a cremation at Parndon Wood Crematorium, Harlow. All enquiries to the Funeral Directors Daniel Robinson & Sons Ltd., 3 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, Herts., tel: (01279) 722476.

DEASE - Rosalind: illustrator and stamp designer, wife of Iain Vass, died peacefully at their home in Calcutta on 10th September, after a long illness. Details from her daughter Fenella Gentleman, 5 Tredegar Square, London E3 5AD, (0181) 983-3399.

GALLI-ZUGARO - On 3rd September 1997, peacefully, after a long illness, bravely borne, Jonquil (née Kinloch Jones), wife of the Baron Paolo Galli-Zugaro of Rome. A Service of Remembrance will be held at Brompton Oratory at 11 am on Tuesday 14th October 1997.

GEORGE - Rowland David, DSO, OBE, Olympic gold medallist, on 9th September, aged 92. Beloved husband of the late Sylvia Norton and much loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Henley-on-Thames on Saturday 4th October at 3pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired for League of Friends of Townlands Hospital, c/o Tomalin & Son, Henley-on-Thames. Tel: 01491 573370.

GEORGE - Professor Frank Honywill M.A. (Cantab), Ph.D. peacefully on 10th September 1997 after a long illness, our most beloved husband, father and grandfather. Enquiries (01494) 868686.

GUY - Joyce died in hospital on Sunday 7th September. She will be sadly missed by her loving family. Partner David, children Jonathan, Joanna, Jasper, Giannina and Linda and grandchildren Natalie, Ashley, Holly, Gabriella, Violet and Gabi. Her funeral will be held at 2 pm on Friday 19th September at Beckenham Crematorium, Elmers End Road, Beckenham, Kent. Flowers to William Dunphy, 294 Brockley Road, London SE4.

HANLEY - On Tuesday September 9th in Cambridge, Frederick Hanley OBE aged 97 years. Youngest son of Mr and Mrs Hanley of Hemsworth, former Fellow of St John's College. Funeral Service will be held at the Chapel in the Hope Nursing Home, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, on Tuesday 16th September at 2.15 pm. Donations may be sent c/o Harry Williams & Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge, tel: (01223) 359480.

HOWORTH - Phyllis Nancy on 9th September 1997 peacefully at Walstead Place, near Lindfield, aged 85. Beloved wife of John, devoted mother to Christopher, Caroline (deceased) and Paul, and stepmother to Tony, Lisa, Jane (deceased) and Alison, grandmother and great-grandmother. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church, Chailey, 12 noon, Monday September 22nd. Family flowers only. Donations to "R.M.H. Leukaemia Research" c/o R. Brooks & Son, 35 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

HUMFREY - Margery, (née Fromlin), died peacefully on September 10th, aged 90 in Holt, Norfolk. Beloved wife of Maurice Humfrey. Widow of Thomas Courtenay-Clack, dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, High Kelling, Holt, Norfolk on Thursday, 18th September at 2.30. Burial at Brixton Deverill, Wiltshire. No flowers, donations, if desired, to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BARNARD - In loving memory of Mary Ianthea who died on 6th March 1993, on this her birthday. Emil.

JANSON-SMITH - On 6th September in a tragic accident in Wales, Bryan, precious husband of Ruth and a beloved son, brother and uncle, aged 64 years. Thanksgiving Service on Saturday October 4th at St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook, Bedford at 11.30 am. Donations if wished to Northants Victim Support c/o E. Hill & Son Funeral Directors, Pershore WR10 1HZ.

MORISON - David Lindsay, aged 76, of Devizes, died tranquilly in hospital on 8th September 1997. Director of the Russia-Asia Centre. Husband of Alison, father of Patricia and James. Donations, if desired, to Book Aid International, 39 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9NR.

MOYNIHAN - Ronald A. peacefully in his sleep on 10th September 1997, aged 79. Loved and missed by his family and friends.

PALMER - Alfred George (A.G.), MBE, MA (Oxon), died suddenly at home on September 8th aged 85. Much loved husband of the late Lucy Palmer and father of Keith and Derek and grandfather of Leonie, Matthew, Louise and Isobel. Funeral Service at New Road Baptist Church, Oxford on Tuesday 16th September at 10.30 am followed by family service at Oxford Crematorium. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, to British Heart Foundation c/o Reeves & Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford.

TWIGGE - Jean Pamela (Jill), on September 10th 1997, peacefully in hospital, aged 76 years, dearly loved wife of Nicholas, mother of Nick and much loved grannie of Danny and Eva. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Woodbridge, on Wednesday September 17th at 10 am, followed by interment at Woodbridge Cemetery. Flowers please to E.B. Button & Sons Ltd., Woodbridge, Suffolk.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

NICHOLL - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Professor Donald Nicholl will be held at The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London W1, on Friday September 26th at 2.30 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

GULLIVER - James Gerald Gulliver CVO, September 12th, 1996. In loving memory from Joan and your children, James, Fiona, Andrew, Alison and Iain.

GULLIVER - James Gerald C.V.O. In loving memory from your wife Melanie.

SHARPE - Mark Edward Vernon died 12th September 1996. Beloved son brother husband father and uncle.

BIRTHDAYS

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COMPANY NOTICES

SPANISH 4% EXTERNAL LOAN (1974 Issue) The coupons due on 1st October 1997 may be presented for payment at Banco Exterior de España SA 1-4 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AH between the hours of 10am and 2pm.
London 12th September 1997

LEGAL NOTICES

Company Number 2666313
E.A. TECHNOLOGY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 175 of the Companies Act 1985, that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above named company (the "Company") duly convened and held on 8th September 1997 a special resolution was passed:- (1) approving the redemption for cash at par of an aggregate of 2,502,000 Preference Shares of £1.00 each, being 192,500 Preference Shares of £1.00 each, registered in the names of each of the holders of Preference Shares on 1st September 1997; and (2) authorising the payment of £1,439,500 of the said sum out of the capital of the Company (the permissible capital payment).
The statutory declaration of the directors of the Company and the auditors' report required by section 173(5) of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company and at the Extraordinary General Meeting convened by this Notice.
Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the 5 weeks immediately following 8th September 1997 apply to the court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1976 for an order prohibiting the payment.
A.J. Sibley
Company Secretary

OUR PRICE WINDOWS (EAST) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Forte Posthouse, High Road, Bell Common, Epping, Essex, CM16 4DG on 23rd September 1997 at 10.00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(A) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Gotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Resolutions to be taken at the aforementioned meeting may include a resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated. The meeting may also receive information about or be called upon to approve the costs of preparing the Statement of Affairs and convening the meeting. Dated this 8/9/1997
Philip Carter
Director

LEGAL NOTICES

Sterling Services Limited
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, L A Manning of Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that on 4th September 1997 I was appointed Liquidator of Sterling Services Limited by resolutions of members and creditors. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 16th October 1997 to send in their full names, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned L A Manning of 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Dated: 4 September 1997
L A Manning, Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The British Albanian Educational Trust
Scheme for the alteration of the objects of the Charity/Varying trust deed
Reference: AS/69750/CD(T).
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at TIDELANDS, CHIDHAM LANE, CHIDHAM, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO18 8TR, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
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OR
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

OBITUARIES

BURGESS MEREDITH

Burgess Meredith, American actor, died in Malibu, California, on September 9 aged 89. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on November 16, 1907.

Burgess Meredith was a versatile and popular performer whose career spanned more than half a century. Although his first love was the theatre, he worked regularly in radio and television and made more than 70 films. He was also active as a director and film producer.

As a young man Meredith played headstrong romantic heroes and comic leading men with equal conviction, but his real strength was in support, where his idiosyncratic features and gravelly voice lent depth to even the smallest character part. Some of his best performances were in the last two decades of his life.

Much of the acting work he did can scarcely have taxed his rare abilities — he may well be best remembered for his outrageous cameo as the Penguin, arch-villain (arch in every sense) in the 1960s *Batman* series. But he seemed not to mind. "If I spent all my time in Shakespearean companies and only did art movies, my position might be more dignified and serious. I might even be a better actor," he once said. "But this is America, and I'm a man moved by the rhythms of his time, so I'll just take amusement at being a paradox."

Burgess Meredith was the son of a Cleveland doctor. His parents separated when he was four, and when he was eight his mother took him to live in New York, where he displayed talent as a boy soprano and won a scholarship to a Roman Catholic choir school. From there he went to Amherst College in Massachusetts.

Meredith as the Penguin in *Batman*; in *Winterset* (top right) and in *Rocky* (bottom right)

His first taste of the stage came when he took the title role in *Peter Pan* at school when he was ten; but, like several other actors of his era, he planned to be a writer when he grew up. As a youth, he worked for a time on the *Stamford Advocate*, and then turned his hand to a number of other jobs in New York. Finally he approached Eva Le Gallienne, who was organising the Civic Repertory Theatre, and asked for a trial. She accepted him at once.

His first speaking part was as Peter, the servant to Juliet's nurse in *Romeo and Juliet*. He remained with the company until 1933, when he scored an instant success as Red Barry, an inmate of a reform school, in *Little Ol' Boy*.

Soon afterwards he appeared as Mio, hero of the stirring blank-verse play *Winterset*, written for him by Maxwell Anderson and based on the Sacco and Vanzetti anarchist case which had gripped America shortly before. In 1936, when RKO decided to film this sombre but arresting drama, about a young man trying to find out who committed the murder for which his father had wrongly been executed, Meredith went out to Hollywood for the first time. The role in which he made his film debut was to remain a favourite with him.

Hollywood at once accepted him as a young actor gifted with considerable versatility, and he found himself cast in a wide variety of films, from flimsy comedies such as *There Goes the Groom* (1937) and *Spring Madness* (1938), to the pretentious eve-of-war confection *Idiot's Delight* (1939) and the altogether more substantial *Of Mice and Men* (1939). The latter, Lewis Milestone's powerful film of John Steinbeck's novel, drew from Meredith one of his most moving and considered performances, as the itinerant ranch hand George, struggling to care for Lon Chaney Jr's slow-witted giant Lenny Small.

He served as a captain in the US Army Air Corps during the war, but in 1944 he was released to play the war correspondent Ernie Pyle (to whom he bore a remarkable resemblance) in *The Story of GI Joe*. After the war he co-produced a comedy, *On Our Merry Way* (1948), with a cast that included Henry Fonda and James Stewart, and directed a thriller, *The Man on the Eiffel Tower* (1949), in which he starred alongside Charles Laughton.

Meredith's relationship with Hollywood was not always an easy one, however. Casting directors sometimes seemed unsure whether to treat him as a leading man or a character player, and there were several periods when work was not forthcoming.

In the 1950s he found himself blacklisted for his left-wing political views; he was later to win an Emmy for his impassioned performance in a 1977 documentary-drama about those years, playing Joseph Welch, the Boston lawyer who helped to put an end to Senator Joseph McCarthy's anti-communist campaign.

Meredith never much cared for Hollywood, and had no great affection for the cinema. Unlike many of his contemporaries, he refused in later life to look back with nostalgia on some mythical golden age of movie-making. "In the old days," he once said, "there were five men who ran the whole industry, who could make or break your career"; modern Hollywood, he thought, was an altogether saner place.

The theatre was his true love, and he was happiest when either acting or directing for the stage. He had a lively and experimental approach to both functions, and was always a great admirer of Orson Welles, to whose Falstaff he had played Prince Hal on stage before the war. During the 1950s he was seen both as actor and director in New York, London and Paris, but he was also seen fairly frequently in films.

He did a great deal of television work, too, not all of it commensurate with his talents, and his distinctive, resonant voice was regularly heard in commercials extolling the virtues of anything from United Airlines to Skippy Peanut Butter.

He found one of his most enjoyable and enduring television roles in the 1960s *Batman* series, a tongue-in-cheek camp classic which quickly won a cult following and continues to be shown around the world today. The series made a feature of its celebrity crooks, with Eartha Kitt (Catwoman) and Caesar Romero (the Joker) among those going gloriously over the top as the Caped Crusader's criminal foes: Meredith's dastardly Penguin, manically waddling and quacking in top hat and tails, was a memorable creation.

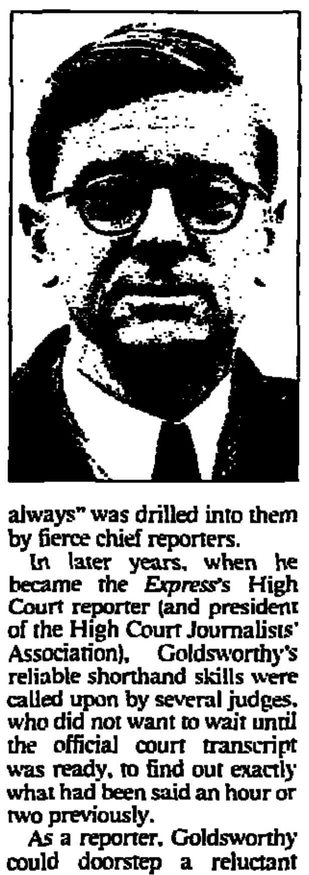
Age enhanced Meredith's appeal as a character actor, etching more deeply his quirky, careworn features and adding an ounce or two more gravel to his grumbling voice. His film career received new impetus in the mid-1970s. He was nominated (for the first time, but without success) for an Academy Award for his performance in *Day of the Locust* in 1975, and again the following year for his role as the cantankerous trainer of a rising boxer in the film *Rocky*, where he added welcome emotional depth to what was essentially a vehicle for Sylvester Stallone. He went on to appear in the various successful *Rocky* sequels. The endearing gruffness which he had brought to his portrayal of Rocky's trainer found another outlet when he played Jack Lemmon's father in *Grumpy Old Men* (1993) and its sequel, *Grumpier Old Men* (1995).

A man of wide interests and considerable intellectual range, Meredith was throughout his career an active campaigner on social and environmental issues. He was also a wine expert and enthusiastic amateur chef. In 1994 he published a volume of memoirs, *So Far, So Good*.

Burgess Meredith was four times married (his third wife was the actress Paulette Goddard, with whom he appeared in a number of films and who was once married to Charlie Chaplin). He is survived by his fourth wife, the dancer Kaja Sundsten, and by a son and daughter.

FRANK GOLDSWORTHY

Frank Goldsworthy, journalist, died on August 31 aged 85. He was born on January 5, 1912.



LIFE as a reporter and foreign correspondent in the heyday of the *Daily Express* — when it was selling more than four million copies a day in the two decades after the war — was as unpredictable and exciting as anything from the pages of Evelyn Waugh's *Scoop*.

The paper boasted that its extensive foreign coverage cost £20 a line (equivalent to nearly £400 today). Television was still a small flickering black-and-white screen, and even middle-market newspapers (none of them then tabloids) specialised in first-hand dispatches from world troublespots — "Tonight I lie in Castro's jail" was one of the most famous of *Express* intros.

Frank Goldsworthy, who joined the *Daily Express* at the age of 23 and spent 42 years on the paper, interrupted only by five wartime years in the Royal Navy, soon became a veteran globetrotter.

During the Korean War in 1950 he became one of the more unlikely foreign correspondents to receive a byline in *The Times*, when the paper's Ian Morrison (with whom Goldsworthy had had dinner only two days before) was killed with *The Daily Telegraph*'s Christopher Buckley when their Jeep ran over a landmine. Because of the tragedy, Goldsworthy's cables were made available to *The Times*, which in its gentlemanly way prefaced his story: "The following despatch was received from Mr Frank Goldsworthy of the *Daily Express*." The "Mr" occasioned much leg-pulling from less respectful colleagues back in the *Express*.

Frank Goldsworthy, who was born in Darlington, started his journalistic career on his hometown *Evening Despatch* at £1 a week in 1929, where a fellow cub reporter on the sister *Northern Echo* was Ted (now Sir Edward) Pickering, who was later to be Goldsworthy's Editor on the *Daily Express*. Both recalled how "accuracy, first, last and always" was drilled into them by fierce chief reporters.

In later years, when he became the *Express*'s High Court reporter (and president of the High Court Journalists' Association), Goldsworthy's reliable shorthand skills were called upon by several judges, who did not want to wait until the official court transcript was ready, to find out exactly what had been said an hour or two previously.

As a reporter, Goldsworthy could doorstep a reluctant interviewee and was formidably persistent but always polite. In May 1947, Dr Robert George Clements of Southport managed to get away with killing three of his wives before killing his fourth and then himself, after a woman, Mrs M, had tipped off the police about her suspicions. Frank Goldsworthy was the only reporter to get an interview with Mrs M. "Do you know, Frank, why you were the only one I let into my house? You were the only one who ever closed our garden gate," she later told him.

Shortly before he died, Goldsworthy had the satisfaction of seeing the publication of his long-delayed autobiography *Want You Soonest . . . Memoirs of a War Reporter*.

Goldsworthy was predeceased by his wife Peggy. There were no children. After his wife's death, he shared his last five years with June Welch, whom he had met in Naval Intelligence in Gibraltar during the war.

MARJORIE SIGLEY

Marjorie Sigley, Controller of Children's Programmes, Thames Television, 1983-86, died of cancer on August 13 aged 68. She was born on December 22, 1928.

A WOMAN passionately committed to the idea that drama is an unrivalled force for expanding and educating the minds of the young, Marjorie Sigley had talents which branched out in every direction. Before taking up her post at Thames Television, she had wide experience of writing, directing and devising dramatic material, both for the stage and the screen. Her reputation was international and her work was respected particularly in America. But at the height of the Cold War she had also taken children's theatre behind the Iron Curtain, notably to Czechoslovakia but also to other Soviet bloc countries.

For her, children's theatre was not simply a matter of "theatre for children". She believed that the process of participating in dramatic creation was an antidote to the pressures of formal education. In classes and workshops in schools, theatres and on television, she encouraged children to shape and control their own material. For her, it was all a part of their becoming aware of themselves and their environment, and integral to the process of growing into responsible citizens.

Majorie Sigley grew up in Buxton, Derbyshire, where her interest in drama was fired from an early age by visits to the repertory theatre there. At Goldsmiths' College, London, she studied drama, dance and music, before returning North to take up a fellowship in drama at Manchester University. It was there that she became involved in theatre workshops and participation theatre, taking groups of her students to the Brighton Festival with their work. She was later to direct the Malcolm Williamson opera *Julius Caesar Jones* as part of the festival's opera workshops.

She returned to London to a teaching career, which she combined with her drama activities. At Markfield School she began by adapting stage classics for performance by young children and, in 1960, she founded the City Literary Drama Company. This presented its own work, ranging from original pantomimes to experimental mime and movement workshops at the City Lit Theatre. In 1968 the company visited Warsaw, Leningrad and Moscow with its children's drama programmes.

In the meantime she was also writing and directing at the Mermaid Theatre, notably a stage version of Erich Kästner's *Emil and the Detectives*. She had two spells, 1962 and 1968-69, at the Habimah National Theatre of Israel and in 1964 did a Youth Theatre tour of Czechoslovakia.

She had also taken the step into television in 1964 when she was invited to demonstrate what children's drama could achieve in a late-night ABC programme. Her contribution, which graphically demonstrated how the potentially destructive energies of teenage boys in a London suburb could be channelled creatively, made a profound impression. She was busy in television thereafter, one of her most striking contributions being *Wonderworld*, two 13-part series in which children in the 5-6 and 15-16 age groups, dramatised and acted stories from the Bible.

From 1966 onwards her Young People's Theatre Project was training primary school teachers in her methods and in 1969 she was director of the Royal Shakespeare Company's workshop series at the Roundhouse.

In 1968, her work profoundly impressed the American actress Uta Hagen, who saw her in action at the Roundhouse. As a result of this she was invited to New York, where she founded the New York City Young People's Theatre, which she directed from 1969 to 1975. During this period she wrote and directed most of its 45 productions. She remained in the United States for several years more, founding and running her own company, Sigley's Young People's Theatre in New York in 1976, before moving to Los Angeles the following year to write a screenplay.

In 1983 she returned to this country to take up the appointment as head of children's television at Thames. She felt that television as an instrument capable of improving children's awareness of themselves and their environment through drama had not improved in Britain since her active days in the medium in the 1960s. She deplored the exaltation of confrontation and violence in programmes that children regularly watched, and hated what she saw as a gleeful harping on the faults of society. She also felt that television for children had become much less intelligent.

Nevertheless, at Thames she set to work with her usual enthusiasm and energy to try to improve things, and was able to bring some highly stimulating work to the screen. Among this was the series *The Wall Game*, which had classes of schoolchildren involved in constructional building and improvisation. The series was chosen to represent Britain at the 1985 Tokyo World Fair. *The T-Bag* was set round a wicked witch and a small boy who assists her, while *Cab* was a mystery detection series for 8 to 11-year-olds.

After leaving Thames she maintained both her live drama and television work. Even after cancer was diagnosed several years ago she had continued to produce both books and ideas for television.

Marjorie Sigley never married.

ON THIS DAY

September 12, 1792

This account of atrocities during the Reign of Terror was given by a man who escaped from Paris disguised as the English maid of Mrs R–, whose own servant had been assassinated.

FRANCE.

The King and Queen are never permitted either night or day to speak together, but in the presence of one of the Municipal Officers, who when they walk, goes between them; when they eat, he sits between them; and at night they sleep in different rooms. In each of these are always four guards, who to avoid being seduced are changed every half hour. As the new guard has orders to see themselves that the King or Queen are in their beds, on entering their rooms, they always ask *Monsieur Louis, Madame Antoinette, êtes vous dans votre lit?* They ask this question until the King and Queen answer, — Yes. The victuals given to the King and Royal Family is worse than that of any of their guards . . . They drink the same wine as their guards. The linen ordered by the Municipality for these Royal personages are six coarse shirts or shifts. A new national great-coat has been made for the King; which with that he had on the day he was arrested, is all he has: but the rest of the Royal Family have only one change of cloaths [*sic*]. The National Guards smoke their pipes, and eat and drink in their prisoners' apartments, as if no one was there: and their conversation is particularly ordered to be directed to the *arrest; — the death of the King's friends; — the reports of the defeat of the Austrians; — insurrections; — desertions in their armes*, and other such false rumours, in order to augment the miserable situation of the Royal Family. The people were butchering all the Emigrants' families and servants when this gentleman left Paris, and very few of the Swiss nation, or Frenchmen of the Club *des Feuillants*, Club *Monarchique*, &c. have escaped the common slaughter. The debtors released by the mob denounced their creditors as Aristocrates; placed themselves at the head of different bands of Brigands, and whole families perished for no other crime than having lent money to people that would not pay them again; and since the 10th of August many hundreds have had themselves arrested for debt, because they knew the mob would soon release them . . . The hands of the old Cardinal de la Rochefaucauld were bound, and the mob ordered him to acknowledge that during his whole life he had never believed in God, but had been a hypocrite. He made no answer. The mob then said, if you believe in God, we give him, the Virgin Mary, or her bastard John, five minutes to release you; and so saying, they cut him in pieces . . .

PERSONAL COLUMN

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities: Various Charities administered by the Trustees of the [illegible] Club
Scheme for the regulation of the Charity
Reference: TS/4935-8/309484/CD(T)
The Commissioners have made a Scheme for these charities. A copy can be seen for the next month at the offices of Herbert Smith, Exchange House, Primrose Street, London EC2A 2HS, or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference.

Kenneth William Gordon Mackenzie
We are attempting to trace the above person, who is aged forty having been born in Worcester on 27th January, 1957. (His father was Colin Gilroy Mackenzie). We understand he may be in the London area, but who in the Seventies lived in Fleet. He also has lived abroad in Germany (particularly the Frieburg Area). The matter is to Mr. Mackenzie's advantage.
If anyone has any information please reply in writing to the undernoted quoting reference NJAR/KMCK.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HUGHES Graham John Alexander, wants his parents to contact him on 01763 255700.

DARREN NEWNHAM Revelation 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two edged sword: and his countenance (was) as the sun shineth in his strength. Mark 5:9 And he asked him, What (is) thy name? And he answered, saying, My Name (is) Legion: for we are many. MPS

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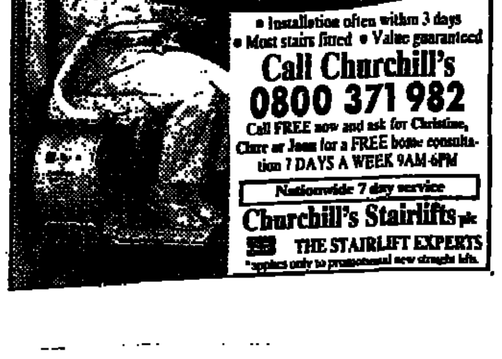

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1997

NEWS

IRA threatens peace talks

■ The IRA threw the peace process into turmoil by disavowing the so-called Mitchell principles of democracy and non-violence to which its political wing, Sinn Fein, had solemnly committed itself on Tuesday.

It also ruled out any disarmament during the the peace negotiations due to begin on Monday and rejected the principle of consent whereby a majority would have to approve any constitutional change........Pages 1, 2

Gas bills drop for early payers

■ British Gas is to cut bills for prompt payers by up to £50 a year from January as competition within the industry intensifies. But customers who pay in advance through meters will receive no benefit. Centrica said that it had been able to cut prices because of lower costs........Page 1

Kenya tourist raid

A bus carrying British tourists had to escape from a Kenyan beach after a band of armed raiders launched an attack. One Kenyan was killed and two were wounded........Page 1

Alimony on toast

A glamorous wife who has been the toast of New York is demanding that the divorce court makes sure she has the money to make toast........Page 3

Arms dealer trial

A British arms dealer charged with the capital offence of "waging war against India" was given a trial date after spending nearly two years in jail........Page 4

Charity fears

A charity whose patron is the Duke of Edinburgh said that the flood of public donations to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund would do "deep and lasting" damage to other charities by diverting money away Page 6

Right teamwork

Football clubs should follow big business and use psychological profiling to ensure that they get the right man, the British Association was told........Page 7

Eagle's delight

Angela Eagle, the junior minister who has come out as a lesbian, said that she had been delighted by the "incredibly positive" response to her decision........Page 8

Pacific patrol

Gail Cox, a Kent policewoman, is swapping her squad car for the Pacific island of Pitcairn.. Page 9

Race-hate sentence

The publisher of a "vile and evil" neo-Nazi magazine, which sparked race-hate campaigns against Frank Bruno's mother and Paddy Ashdown, was jailed for 21 months........Page 10

Terrorism dilemma

Yitzhak Rabin's widow has challenged Israel's policy of blaming Yassir Arafat for Islamic terrorism, saying that Jews were once terrorists and the British could not stop them........Page 11

Basic ethics training

The American Army, beset with sex scandals, responded by extending basic training to teach recruits ethics and values. It also sent letters of reprimand, ending their careers, to a major-general and other senior officers. Page 12

Basic word training

Russia's parliament is planning to reintroduce Soviet-era legislation to ban swearwords from being spoken or published, in an effort to clean up the Russian language........Page 14

Mir inquiry

President Yeltsin demanded a full inquiry into the series of accidents and malfunctions aboard the Mir space station over the past three months........Page 15

Made to make your wallet water

■ Opal Fruits, the sweets that are "made to make your mouth water", have fallen victim to globalisation and are to be renamed as Starburst, the brand they are sold under in the US. Mars was somewhat coy about its plans but admitted that from November it would be introducing the Starburst name via "an on-pack flash" alongside the existing name........Page 1

AP

An artist's impression of the Mars Global Surveyor as it orbited 235 miles above the planet yesterday during a mission to map the surface

BUSINESS

Digital delay: Consumer electronics manufacturers have expressed concern that delays in placing orders for television set-top boxes could affect the launch of digital terrestrial television........Page 23

Base rate held: The Bank of England's monetary policy committee passed up the opportunity to raise rates for the first time since it took control of interest rate policy in May........Page 23

BAe surprise: British Aerospace must repay more than £300 million of Government loans before the year 2000. The loans helped fund new aircraft launches........Page 23

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 50.4 to 4,854.8. Sterling fell to 99.7 from 99.9, rising to $1.5880 but falling 1.32 pf to DM2.8449........Page 26

SPORT

Football: England's progress to the top of their World Cup qualifying group is vindication of the unflappable stance Glenn Hoddle has taken since the defeat by Italy at Wembley........Page 44

Cricket: Glamorgan maintained their pursuit of Kent, the Britannic Assurance Championship leaders, by forcing Essex to follow on at Cardiff........Page 40

Rugby union: Clive Woodward is to be confirmed as England's coach in succession to Jack Rowell after Bath agreed to his release from a verbal agreement.. Page 44

Golf: Severiano Ballesteros produced his best round of the season to share the lead after the first round of the Lancôme Trophy with Peter O'Malley........Page 42

ARTS

Academy dispute: "The crusty old Royal Academy members have painted themselves into a still-life called *Irrelevance, With Fossils*", says Richard Morrison......Page 31

The nose has it: Antony Sher plays a "heroically anti-heroic" Cyrano de Bergerac in the Royal Shakespeare Company's new production........Page 31

Young critics: *The Times* prints the best three entries in its Young Critics Competition, held this week at the Junior Prom........Page 31

Pop on Friday: Mariah Carey takes to her bed to be interviewed; Ocean Colour Scene bring out a fine album; and Caitlin Moran wishes certain pop stars had kept their mouths shut during the events of last weekend........Page 32, 33

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ METRO
The new 52-page guide to what's on in your region featuring an interview with Blur

■ TELEVISION
Vision, the new, stand-alone, 32-page guide to the week's television and all national radio

FEATURES

Royal funeral: The funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, brought back poignant memories for Lady Mountbatten. "It took me six months of misery and then a year to be relatively normal and two years to be as back to normal as life is going to be"........Page 17

FASHION

Short and sexy: The mini is back — in red and black — just in time for winter. Grace Bradberry picks three of the best........Page 16

EDUCATION

Student fees: Paying for tuition may be no guarantee that universities will gain more resources, argues John O'Leary........Page 35

Making a difference: Michael Barber challenges claims by a report that improvement in standards is random........Page 25

THE PAPERS

Accumulating elected offices is one of France's most singular characteristics and among the worst faults of the French political system. Northern European countries eschew this practice and in neither Italy nor Spain do individuals hold so many different elected posts as in France, where one man, Alain Juppé, was recently allowed to be simultaneously head of the Government, mayor of a large city and chief of the majority party

— *Le Monde*

RADIO & TV

Review: Matthew Bond welcomes the resumption of normal "life" in *Casualty* (BBC1), *Taggart* (ITV) and *Equinox* (C4) **Preview:** *The Practice*, new legal drama (ITV, 9.00pm)........Pages 42, 43

OPINION

Diana's day

Diana should be commemorated in time as well as space. One of the best proposals is that of creating a new Bank Holiday or perhaps renaming an existing one.....Page 19

The mine treaty

Spy satellites and drones could monitor frontiers, and air-blast bombs could be as deadly a deterrent. But a comprehensive landmine ban would not end the killing of non-combatants........Page 19

Sickly sweet

Mars plc was founded 65 years ago but its marketing men have chosen to act more like impetuous teenagers than pensioners. Are these people off their wrappers?...Page 19

COLUMNS

MATTHEW PARRIS

It was within seconds of Archie shouting "crevasse!" that the new fall of snow under my feet suddenly gave way. My foot went through. As I tried to right myself, the other foot went through. Now I was up to my chest and the snow under my arms was crumbling in.....Page 18

JOHN LLOYD

Russia — weak, poor, uneasily at peace, neither collapsing nor surging ahead — makes little news now. Its political divisions have resumed a Byzantine pattern: men of power struggle viciously in and around the Kremlin for advantage, apparently indifferent to the popular welfare........Page 18

PHILIP HOWARD

A stiff upper lip has become an unfashionable feature, even when it does not jut out above a loose lower jaw. Since it is the lower lip that quivers when Tony Blair is reading the lesson, a stiff *upper* lip seems a useless appendage .. Page 18

OBITUARIES

Burgess Meredith, actor; **Frank Goldsworthy**, reporter; **Marjorie Sigley**, children's television programme controller........Page 21

LETTERS

West Bank; banana ban; Blair and unions; school pets; protocol; Treasury and Church........Page 19

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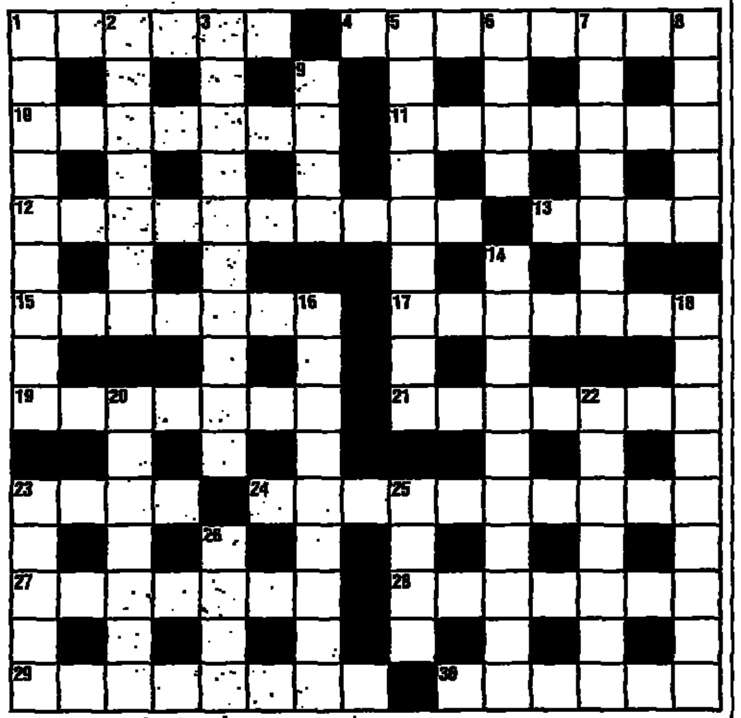

ACROSS
1 So unlike the minister, backing collective (6).
4 Rascal, a waggish type found here (8).
10 Throw so-called writer a flower (7).
11 Whip boy from part of Spain (7).
12 Ulster may depend on this (4-6).
13 Oldster put in confused state by young beginner? (4).
15 Supporter gives team-leader money demanded (7).
17 House on the avenue unopened — so we hear from Jack (5-2).
19 Allow in again to study at American university (7).
21 Record as present, and reprimand (4,3).
23 Quickly write a dance (4).
24 Male with unusually wide behind from central region (10).
27 Study book with port or with spirit (3,4).
28 Island that's all right, in a way? Not quite (7).
29 Bear left by New York, returning to this district? (8).
30 Point to person who executed quick work (6).

DOWN
1 Barman's assistant? (9).
2 Secret lore putting learner among top marks? (7).
3 Lacking any distinction, nevertheless (3,3,4).
5 Provision for Head in which one's soundly beaten (6,3).
6 Instrument another's not following initially (4).
7 Statesman taking over command post (7).
8 Chap conceals new name for strong fabric (5).
9 Young animal appearing to crawl (4).
14 Game with staff that comes to a striking end (10).
16 A decoration being worn in my wedding (9).
18 One composer frequently listened to another (9).
20 The pound he owed was of vital importance (7).
22 Working effectively as an artist in free time (7).
23 Con man who disguised how smooth he was (5).
25 Yarns of the type one might hear from a boxer (4).
26 Journey starts in the river and ends in the creek (4).

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Times Two Crossword, page 44

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.31 am	Sun sets: 7.22 pm
Moon sets 12.56 am	Moon rises 4.41 pm

Full moon September 16
London 7.22 pm to 6.32 am
Bristol 7.32 pm to 6.42 am
Edinburgh 7.38 pm to 6.40 am
Manchester 7.32 pm to 6.39 am
Penzance 7.43 pm to 6.55 am

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** Rain will move southeastwards across England and Wales, clearing far south east towards lunchtime. Then sunny spells and showers. Most of the showers will be in northern and western areas. A few isolated outbreaks in east and south later.

Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic will have blustery showers; wind strengthening, reaching gale force in far northwestern areas. Frequent, heavy showers, especially in north and west Scotland.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S England, E Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Is:** Cloudy start with showery rain. Drier, sunny spells in afternoon. Moderate SW wind. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **E, Cent N, NE England:** Rain at first; brighter later with sunny spells and isolated showers. Brisk SW wind. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **W Midlands, SW, NW England, Wales, Lakes, IoM:** Overnight rain will soon clear to give sunny spells and a few showers. Brisk W wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** Cool and windy with showers, most frequent over hills and through central lowlands. Fresh SW wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll:** Cold, windy. Heavy showers. Fresh to strong W to NW wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Cold and blustery. Frequent heavy showers. Brisk SW wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **N Ireland:** Rather cold and windy; frequent heavy showers. A few sunny spells. Fresh to strong NW wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Irish Republic:** Sunny intervals and showers, locally heavy. Wind strong W or NW. Max 15C (59F)

☐ **Outlook:** Saturday showery, windy, cool, with heavy showers in Scotland, and snow flurries over the mountains. Showers will clear, but more rain will soon reach north.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

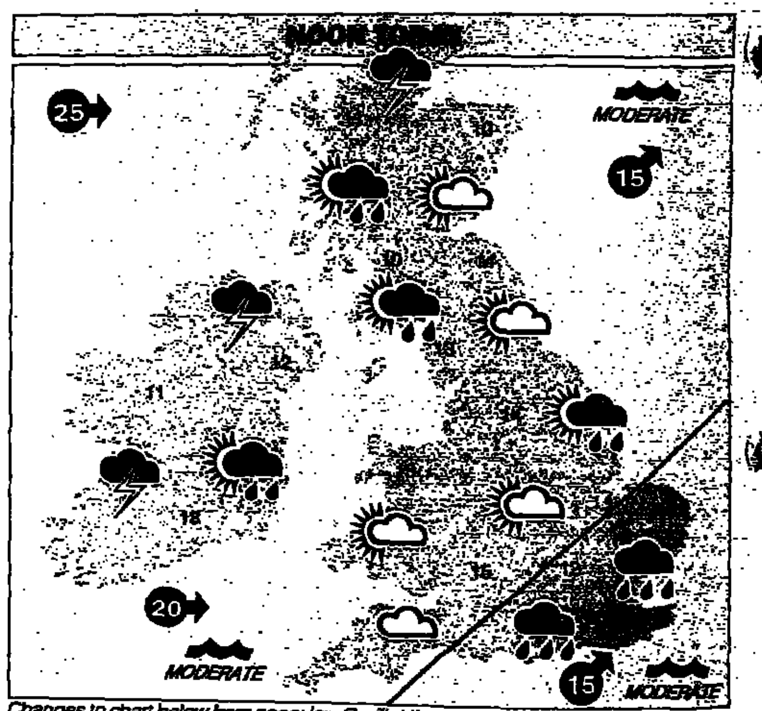
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.7	-	19	66	s
Anglesey	4.8	0.08	17	63	r
Aspatria	2.9	0.01	18	64	r
Aviemore	3.2	-	16	61	b
Birmingham	2.7	-	19	66	c
Bognor R	5.8	-	20	68	b
Bristol	1.4	-	19	66	c
Buxton	2.2	-	17	63	c
Cardiff	1.4	0.01	18	64	r
Clacton	X	-	18	64	b
Cleethorpes	5.7	-	19	66	s
Cromer	3.3	-	19	66	c
Dunbar	8.0	0.03	20	68	r
Eastbourne	5.4	-	13	55	s
Edinburgh	7.3	-	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	1.6	0.02	16	61	r
Exmouth	1.6	0.01	18	64	c
Falmouth	1.8	-	18	64	c
Fishguard	1.1	0.01	16	61	c
Folkestone	8.8	-	19	66	b
Glasgow	3.2	0.01	16	61	r
Guernsey	8.3	-	22	72	s
Hastings	5.7	-	19	66	s
Hayling I.	5.3	-	19	66	s
Herne Bay	2.1	-	20	68	du
Hunstanton	2.8	-	20	68	c
Isle of Man	2.3	0.09	16	61	r
Isle of Wight	5.0	-	19	66	s
Jersey	9.5	-	21	70	s
Kinloss	5.7	0.01	18	64	b
Leeds	5.5	-	19	66	s
Lerwick	-	0.09	13	55	r
Leuchars	6.0	-	19	66	b
Littlehmptn	5.2	-	19	66	s
London	3.7	-	22	72	b
Lowestoft	2.5	-	18	64	c
Manchester	4.1	-	17	63	c
Margate	3.5	-	20	68	c
Minehead	0.4	-	19	66	c
Morecambe	6.1	-	18	64	s
Newcastle	8.0	-	19	66	s
Norwich	2.6	-	19	66	c
Penzance	X	0.02	18	64	r
Poole	2.8	-	21	70	c
Ross-o-wye	1.6	-	18	64	b
Salcombe	2.0	0.01	19	66	c
Saunton Snd	2.3	-	19	66	du
Scarboro'	8.0	-	19	66	s
Shrewsbury	1.8	0.01	17	63	r
Southend	4.5	-	20	68	c
Southsea	7.4	-	19	66	s
Stornoway	-	0.11	15	59	r
Swanage	3.2	-	19	66	c
Teignmouth	1.6	0.01	19	66	c
Tenby	1.7	-	17	63	c
Tiree	2.5	0.01	16	61	sh
Torquay	2.2	0.01	19	66	c
Tynemouth	-	-	19	66	s
West-s-Mare	0.4	-	19	66	du
Weymouth	2.7	-	20	68	b

ABROAD

	C	F	
Ajaccio	27	81	s
Akrotiri	27	81	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s
Algiers	33	91	s
Amst'dm	17	63	f
Athens	31	88	s
B Aires	14	57	f
Bahrain	35	95	s
Bangkok	34	93	f
Barbados	30	86	f
Barcelona	27	81	s
Beirut	28	82	s
Belgrade	19	66	f
Berlin	14	57	c
Bermuda	27	81	f
Biarritz	26	79	s
Borde'x	25	77	s
Brussels	16	61	f
Budapst	17	63	f
Cairo	31	88	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s
Ch'church	15	59	X
Chicago	20	68	s
Cologne	17	63	f
Corfu	28	82	s
C'phagn	16	61	f
Dublin	16	61	s
Dubrovnik	26	79	f
Faro	27	81	s
Florence	28	82	s
Frankfurt	18	64	s
Funchal	24	75	f
Geneva	19	66	s
Gibraltar	26	79	s
Helsinki	15	59	f
Hong K	30	86	f
Innsbrck	19	66	s
Istanbul	26	79	f
Jeddah	36	97	s
Jo'burg	12	54	c
L Angels	27	81	s
L Palmas	26	79	s
Le Touqt	19	66	f
Lisbon	29	84	s
Locarno	26	79	s
Luxembg	16	61	s
Luxor	39	102	s
Madrid	31	88	s
Majorca	28	82	s
Malaga	29	84	s
Malta	27	81	f
Melb'rne	14	57	c
Mexico C	X		
Miami	31	88	s
Milan	29	84	s
Montreal	21	70	s
Moscow	12	54	c
Munich	15	59	f
N Delhi	30	86	f
N York	21	70	f
Nairobi	26	79	f
Naples	28	82	f
Nice	26	79	f
Oslo	16	61	f
Paris	19	66	s
Peking	16	61	r
Perth	16	61	c
Prague	12	54	c
Reykjavik	8	46	f
Rhodes	27	81	s
Rio de J	25	77	f
Riyadh	41	106	s
Rome	27	81	f
S Fr'isco	21	70	s
S Paulo	X		
Salzburg	15	59	f
Santiago	15	59	s
Seoul	26	79	c
Sing'por	33	91	f
St'kholm	15	59	f
Strasb'rg	18	64	s
Sydney	17	63	f
Tangier	25	77	s
Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Tenerife	28	82	s
Tokyo	29	84	s
Toronto	17	63	r
Tunis	29	84	f
Valencia	33	91	s
Vanc'ver	19	66	f
Venice	27	81	s
Vienna	18	64	f
Warsaw	14	57	r
Wash'ton	X		
Wel'ngton	13	55	X
Zurich	17	63	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Wednesday. X = not available

NOON TODAY



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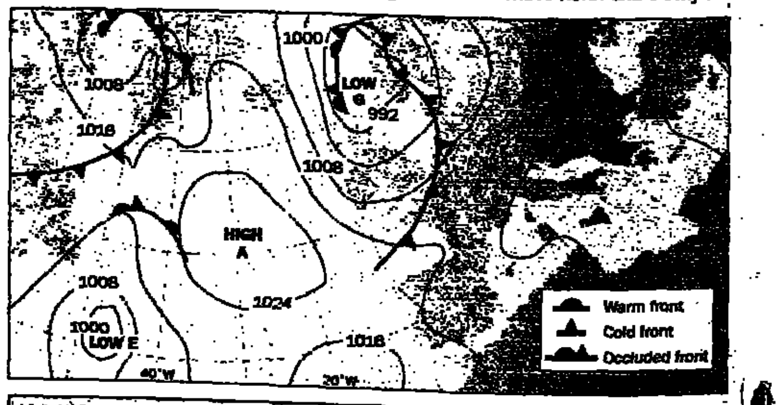

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	08.33	5.7	22.21	5.8
Aberdeen	10.02	3.5	22.30	3.6
Avonmouth	02.37	9.9	15.34	10.2
Belfast	07.15	3.0	19.43	3.0
Cardiff	02.23	9.3	15.20	9.6
Devonport	01.05	4.4	13.50	4.6
Dover	07.10	5.4	19.53	5.5
Dublin (N Wall)	08.18	3.4	20.38	3.5
Falmouth	00.36	4.2	13.21	4.4
Greenock	08.22	2.9	21.33	2.9
Harwich	07.43	3.3	20.27	3.4
Holyhead	08.50	4.5	19.26	4.7
Hull (Albert D)	02.09	7.1	15.07	7.1
Ilfracombe	01.41	6.9	14.33	7.2
King's Lynn	02.13	5.1	15.06	5.1
Leith	11.03	4.5	23.33	4.7
Liverpool	07.24	7.4	20.07	7.8
Lowestoft	05.42	2.2	18.26	2.2
Margate	07.59	4.0	20.42	4.0
Milford Haven	01.57	5.2	14.49	5.4
Newquay	00.58	5.3	13.50	5.5
Oban	01.59	2.9	15.21	3.2
Penzance	00.27	4.3	13.17	4.5
Portland	02.22	1.3	15.18	1.4
Portsmouth	07.46	3.9	20.15	4.0
Shoreham	07.15	4.8	20.01	5.0
Southampton	06.54	3.8	19.32	3.9
Swansea	02.06	7.2	14.52	7.4
Tees	-	-	12.27	4.3
Walton-on-N	07.41	3.4	20.28	3.5

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 22C (72F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 13C (55F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Highland, 0.28in; highest sunshine: Jersey, 9.6hr

RNLI RESCUE UPDATE - 12 SEPTEMBER 1997

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	544
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	2,307
Cost to RNLI per day:	£193,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No. 209603

THE TIMES 2

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1997

Failure to order TV decoders could hit digital launch

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

CONSUMER electronics manufacturers have expressed concern that delays in placing orders for television set-top boxes could affect the launch of digital terrestrial television in the UK.

Digital terrestrial TV (DTT) will offer viewers the chance to have as many as 40 new television channels with a conventional TV aerial, although a digital set-top decoder will be necessary.

The main commercial DTT licences were awarded in June to British Digital Broadcasting, a partnership between Carlton and Granada, the two largest commercial broadcasters.

The Independent Television Commission, the industry regulator, hopes to grant BDB its licences by the end of this month. Under the rules, BDB then has to launch its service within 12 months. However, some manufacturers are concerned they have so far received no specifications from BDB and no orders have yet been placed.

Pace Micro Technology, the UK decoder manufacturer whose shares have been hit by slower than expected digital television equipment orders from around the world, has, it is believed, warned BDB that specifications are urgently needed if it is to produce anything but the simplest decoders within the planned timescale.

Steve Barnes, sales and marketing director of Pace, said yesterday: "All of us need to make decisions quickly in order to meet market deadlines."

Pace will today produce its millionth digital decoder, but there is often a considerable lead time for new designs. In the next three weeks, the company will start delivering digital decoders to Canal Plus, of France. That order was placed 13 months ago.

The first microchips for the DTT decoders are not expected to be ready until Christmas. The sense of urgency is caused by the fact that the pre-Christmas market is the best time to sell new consumer products.

BDB said yesterday that it would be issuing specifications to manufacturers in the near future, but declined to say when that would be. The company said it was confident it was still looking at "the second half of next year" for the launch of DTT.

There is also concern about the initial price of the equipment. If first orders are small and include high levels of interactivity, the initial retail cost could be as much as £540.

BDB has made clear that it wants sets to cost only £200 to £300, so compromises may have to be made on specifications if the level of subsidy is not to become unacceptably high.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4854.8	(−50.4)
Yield	3.40%	
FTSE All share	2294.72	(−21.29)
Nikkei	18282.23	(−422.54)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7629.62	(−89.66)*
S&P Composite	908.54	(−10.49)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5$\frac{9}{16}$%)
Long Bond	95$\frac{21}{32}$*	(96$\frac{5}{16}$)
Yield	6.60%*	(6.66%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7$\frac{7}{32}$%	(7$\frac{7}{32}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	115$\frac{7}{16}$	(114$\frac{15}{16}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5970*	(1.5871)
London:		
$	1.5881	(1.5863)
DM	2.8451	(2.8577)
FFr	9.5611	(9.6054)
SFr	2.3463	(2.3510)
Yen	190.20	(189.00)
£ Index	99.7	(99.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7799*	(1.7993)
FFr	6.0005*	(6.0490)
SFr	1.4715*	(1.4793)
Yen	119.57*	(119.25)
$ Index	105.7	(105.6)

Tokyo close Yen 118.85

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Nov)	$18.65	($18.45)

GOLD

London close	$322.25	($321.25)

* denotes midday trading price

Centrica 'on track' despite heavy losses

By Alasdair Murray

CENTRICA yesterday claimed its business was "on track" despite unveiling huge losses in its maiden set of interim results.

The company, which was spun out of British Gas this year, recorded a half-year pre-tax loss of £149 million, compared with a profit of £196 million last year.

But Roy Gardner, chief executive, said that Centrica had made great strides towards resolving problems it inherited from British Gas. The company also revealed it would be cutting gas bills by about 9 per cent from January.

The price cuts, which will come largely from a reduction in transport costs, are expected to be matched by Centrica's main rivals as competition hots up.

Mr Gardner said Centrica had made "substanial improvements" to the level of customer service, which had plagued the company during the past few years.

The company has also reduced its exposure to take-or-pay contracts, which tied Centrica into buying overpriced gas, by about 50 per cent since demerger. Mr Gardner added he was confident of unveiling a deal with an electricity generator and would be the first energy group to provide a nationwide "one-stop" energy shop next year.

Operating profits declined 50 per cent to £89 million, mainly because of warm weather cutting gas consumption. Exceptional charges totalled £252 million including £192 million from the windfall tax payment, £40 million from the renegotiation of take-or-pay contracts and £20 million redundancy costs.

There is no dividend.

Tempus, page 26

BTR to halve group with £3bn sell-off

By Jason Nissé

BTR launched a £3 billion sell-off programme yesterday to slim down the giant industrial conglomerate to a core of engineering businesses, halving the size of the group inherited by Ian Strachan when he became chief executive last year.

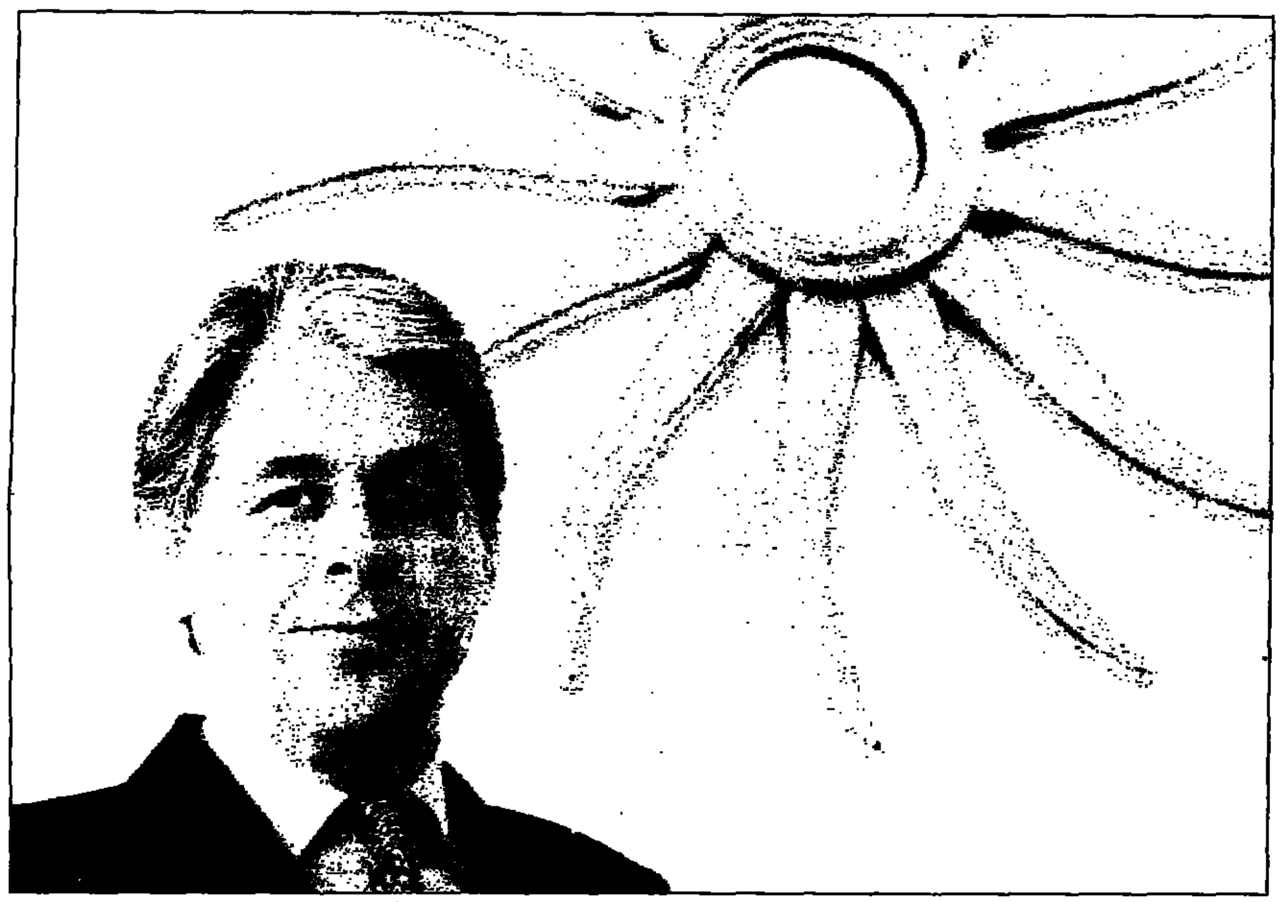
The group — which recently bowed to City pressure and replaced its chairman, Elwyn Eilledge, with Bob Bauman, the former chairman of Smithkline Beecham — also flagged the prospect of giving back to shareholders a large part of the money raised.

BTR has sold businesses with turnover of £2 billion in the last year, cutting its debts to £2.4 billion, and still has businesses with sales of £300 million to dispose of under the programme it announced a year ago.

The group plans to complete the new round of sell-offs by the end of next year. Mr Strachan said the amount to be returned to shareholders depends on how much was received from the disposals, their timing and the prospects of investing in the business it retains. Once the sell-offs are completed, BTR is expected to move from the diversified industrials section on the stock market, where it has been since the 1970s, to engineering.

Mr Strachan also rounded on critics of Kathleen O'Donovan, the group's 39-year-old finance director. Many institutional investors have called for her to stand down, claiming that she did not have a strong grasp of strategy. "Kathleen is a highly valued member of my management team and I hope she will continue to remain so," he said.

The companies to be sold had sales of £2.8 billion last year and include the packaging side, which delivered most of the growth seen by BTR in the early 1990s, building materials and the polymer businesses, which formed the core of the group Sir Owen Green turned into an international conglomerate in the 1970s and 1980s. Among the brands to go are Formica, which BTR bought only two years ago; Nylex, the Australian business; and most of the remaining Dunlop operations, the original Birmingham Tyre & Rubber company.



Ian Strachan, chief executive of BTR, where disposals will reduce the group to core engineering businesses

BTR's recent disposals have commanded prices equal to around 80 per cent of sales but Mr Strachan expects to receive at least 100 per cent for the new wave of sell-offs. The jewel in the crown is packaging, which makes nearly all the glass bottles for the Australian wine industry. Analysts expect this business to be worth as much as £2 billion.

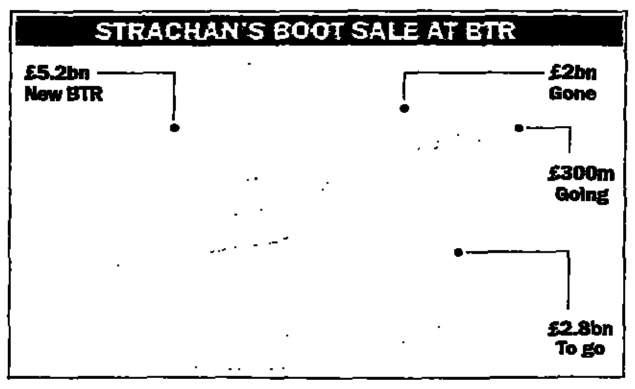
The announcement of the disposals lifted BTR shares 15p to 234p, despite a disappointing set of half-year figures. Taxable profits fell by £86 million, to £540 million, though half of this fall was caused by movements in exchange rates. Earnings per share fell to 9.1p against 10.7p, and the dividend is unchanged at 4p, payable as a foreign income dividend on November 28.

The City was quick to point out that many of the businesses that will make up the core of BTR after restructuring performed poorly in the six months. The automotive group suffered a 1 per cent fall in profits largely because of a sharp fall in Australian car production, and the power drives business only enjoyed a 1 per cent increase in earnings.

"Look at the divisional figures, they are all pretty wretched," said Charles Pick, diversified industrials analyst at Panmure Gordon, the brokers. "There is not that nmuch evidence that BTR has achieved the change of culture that Strachan promised."

Mr Strachan admitted that margins, which stood at 19 per cent when he took over, would be under pressure at the group, but said this was a factor of investing in high-growth areas like automotive sealants and control systems.

STRACHAN'S BOOT SALE AT BTR



Commentary page 25

BAe must honour £360m state debt by 2000

By Adam Jones

BRITISH AEROSPACE must repay £360 million to the Government by 2000, it emerged yesterday. The loans were made to fund the launch of new aircraft by Airbus, the European consortium in which BAe is a partner.

Called "launch aid", the loans funded the start-up of the Airbus A320 and A330/A340 planes. The interest rates have not been disclosed although they are above base rates. The repayment of the loans will mask the growing profitability of Airbus and affect BAe's earnings in 1998 and 1999.

BAe repaid £41 million, relating to the A320 only, last year. The repayment is expected to be about £60 million this year, is expected to reach up to £140 million next year, peak at up to £160 million in 1999, before subsiding to about £60 million in 2000.

BAe said the increases followed a repayment schedule set down when the financing was obtained. A new launch aid application has been made for the A340-600 airliner.

BAe shares fell 45p to £15.10½ yesterday even though the company reported a 29 per cent rise in profits to £278 million before tax and exceptional items for the six months to June 30. The interim dividend rises 25 per cent to 7.82p a share.

The decision to stop production of Jetstream aircraft led to an anticipated one-off charge of £250 million, leaving a post-exceptional £70 million loss before tax.

At the end of the six months, BAe had a closing order book of £19.5 billion. Defence orders accounted for £12.1 billion of this record figure. Airbus Industrie's order book is worth $56 billion.

BAe confirmed that Arlington Securities, its property operation, may be spun-off or floated.

Tempus, page 26

John Lewis profits advance

SHUTTING John Lewis department stores until 2pm last Saturday for the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales brought a 9.3 per cent drop in weekly sales, the group said yesterday (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Department store sales were less than £28 million last week, against more than £30 million in the same week last year. John Lewis was one of many retail groups to remain shut on the morning of the funeral. However, sales at Waitrose, the group's supermarkets, jumped on the Friday.

The department stores' sales fall bucked the recent trend at John Lewis. Group sales rose 7 per cent in the first six months of the year, with pre-tax profits rising 21 per cent. Department store sales rose 11 per cent, while trading at the Waitrose supermarket chain, which had to cope with food price deflation, was up 5 per cent.

The interim figures bode well for staff bonuses. The group has set aside £63.3 million — 25 per cent more than a year ago — for possible profit-sharing. The level of bonuses will be announced with the full-year results in March.

Energis polishes pre-float profile

By Eric Reguly

ENERGIS, the telecoms arm of the National Grid, is to launch a £1 million-plus marketing campaign to raise its profile before its expected flotation.

Analysts said that the initial public offering could value Energis at £1 billion or more. The Grid has not officially decided to proceed with the Energis sale, though Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the Grid's financial adviser, is working on the assumption that it will be completed before the end of the year.

The Grid created Europe's most modern telecoms system by slinging 4,700kms of fibre-optic cable underneath its electricity pylons in 19 months, at a cost of only £337 million. The cable companies, by contrast, have spent billions of pounds on systems that are only half built.

The Grid is under pressure to extract value from the Energis investment, which, including operating losses, has climbed to almost £600 million. So far Energis's value has not been reflected in the Grid's share price. The Grid wants to sell no more than 49 per cent of Energis.

Irene Cackett, Energis's marketing director, said: "The purpose of the campaign is to build Energis's brand and market presence." The initial round of advertising will be carried in national newspapers at the weekend.

Spirited recovery, page 27

Interest rates pegged at 7%

By Alasdair Murray
Economics Correspondent

THE Bank of England's monetary policy committee has passed up the opportunity to raise rates for the first time since it took control of interest rate policy in May.

After four consecutive monthly rises, the committee issued a brief statement at the conclusion of its monthly meeting to say it would leave rates unchanged at 7 per cent. But the decision, which had been widely expected, prompted little joy in the markets. The stock market, which was again weighed down by losses on the Far East exchanges and on Wall Street, slumped to its fourth consecutive loss. The FTSE 100 closed down 50.4 points at 4,854.8. It has lost 2.8 per cent this week. The Dow Jones industrial average had fallen 89.66 to 7,629.62 by lunchtime in New York.

The pound also edged lower, touching a three-month low during trading. Sterling's trade-weighted index closed down 0.2 at 99.7 while the pound finished more than a mark lower at DM2.8449.

Economists broadly welcomed the decision, pointing to recent data that indicates the economy may be slowing. David Kern, chief economist of NatWest Group, said that it was important to avoid policy "overkill" and to limit further rises. He said a further quarter-point rise would probably be necessary before rates peaked. The minutes of the meeting will be published on October 15.

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THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS IN BRIGHTON

Leaders fear recognition backlash

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

John Monks, left, TUC General Secretary, with Padraig Flynn, European Commissioner for Social Affairs, who addressed conference yesterday

TRADE UNION leaders gave warning yesterday of a "concerted effort" by business against the Government's plans to bring in new laws requiring companies to recognise unions.

Launching a campaign aimed at winning public support for the Government's proposals, which would make it unlawful for companies to refuse to recognise unions for collective bargaining where a majority of the workforce wants it, union leaders predicted a fierce anti campaign by business.

Speaking at the close of the annual congress, John Monks, the General Secretary, said of the Government's commitment to recognition: "There are powerful forces that will be arguing against it and trying to blow them off course. They will say that it is too bureaucratic, or that it is unnecessary — that there are more important things to do, or that it will hit business. Above all they will say it's a favour to the unions — some kind of post-election payback", rather than a "modest and entirely fair extension of citizenship to the workplace".

Mr Monks cited the strong opposition to recognition being mounted by bodies such as the Institute of Directors. Ruth Lea, the IoD's policy head, insisted yesterday that the right of companies to make a choice over unionisation should be maintained, and said that "any appeal to the democratic rights of employees should be dismissed as quite irrelevant".

In advance of the publication next year of a Government White Paper on fairness at work, which will include plans for legislation on recognition, the TUC, at the suggestion of the Prime Minister, is holding talks with the CBI on trying to narrow the differences over the issue, though neither side is optimistic of reaching full agreement.

But yesterday the TUC launched a campaign to support Labour's plans, which union leaders said would be a central feature of their work over the next year. Bill Morris, General Secretary of the T&G transport union, said: "Our message is to ensure that Labour's proposals are seen as right, are seen as fair, and are seen as democratic."

Though the TUC emphasised its commitment to working in partnership with good employers, union leaders attacked non-union companies in Britain, many of which were "nasty and brutish".

The conference ended with a video on non-union firms, which used hidden camera footage to show allegedly poor conditions in a West Midlands chemical company and a North London bakery.

New deal with employer

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

VISION OF PARTNERSHIP

LEADERS of the GMB general union announced a new partnership agreement with a glass company aimed at ending the "hire and fire culture" and offering pay rises of up to 30 per cent.

The deal was hailed by the union as an example of the industrial partnership called for at this week's TUC conference by the Prime Minister, the CBI and the TUC itself.

The GMB, together with the AEEU engineering union, reached agreement with Solaglas, the UK subsidiary of Saint-Gobain, the French glass company, on a new deal covering about 500 glaziers in the company, and which is likely to lead to the recruitment of an additional 30 employees by reducing the use of sub-contractors.

Instead of high overtime and call-out payments, basic pay for glaziers will rise from between £9,114 and £9,704 to £11,100 and £13,200, and for principal glaziers from £10,050 to between £13,300 and £14,630.

☐ Lloyds TSB is to consult local communities over proposed closures of the last bank in a town. The new commitment — the first by a high street bank — comes as part of a new partnership deal with Bifu, the banking union, which extends union recognition in the bank.

Power sales to go ahead

By Christine Buckley
and Philip Bassett

UNION ENERGY

THE Trades Union Congress is to sell gas and electricity after a rebellion by a large part of the union movement was overthrown.

Union Energy, which was set up six months ago, will offer gas and electricity to union members when the domestic markets are deregulated. It plans to make profits which will be put back into the TUC.

The plan stirred controversy from several unions who argued it would threaten jobs in the energy industry and marked an unacceptable step towards TUC plc.

Steve Brazier of Unison told congress: "The TUC is increasing job insecurity and competition which has led to 120,000 jobs being lost by our members in the electricity and gas industries." John Tilley, of the RMT, said: "If the price of modernisation is we will come here to a backdrop of TUC plc then thanks but no thanks."

But Union Energy was defended by some union leaders who said that since competition was inevitable — and in the case of gas already being phased in — then the union movement should participate. Tony Cooper, general secretary of the Engineers and Managers Association, said: "Competition is coming and we are sick and tired of playing King Canute."

Pension sales boost Legal & General

By Caroline Merrell

LEGAL & GENERAL'S interim profits have jumped 15 per cent, to £155 million, boosted by strong sales of personal equity plans (Peps) and personal pensions. A total of £3.7 billion of new money was invested with the company in the first half.

In spite of the sharp rise in profits, David Prosser, chief executive, gave warning that an economic downturn or a fall in the stock market could lead to consolidation in the life insurance industry. Mr Prosser believes that current buoyant market conditions are masking the fact that many companies are not in a financially strong position. He said: "The industry has always been competitive. Margins are thinner. You have to be able to sell large volumes on thinner margins."

The number of life insurance companies, currently 100, could fall by two thirds over ten years, Mr Prosser believes.

Earnings per share rose 19 per cent, to 8.57p, and the dividend rises 14.3 per cent, to 4p. L&G said that it would continue to pursue a progressive dividend policy after a change to its long-term fund allowing shareholders' interests to be more fully accounted for.

The company said that it had reviewed about half of its 33,000 possible pension misselling cases, and claimed that it was on course to meet the end-of-September deadline for sorting out its compensation arrangements. It refused to disclose how much it had set aside for compensation.

In June, the company was strongly criticised by Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, for being slow to compensate those who had been encouraged to give up their employers' pensions in favour of taking out a less beneficial personal pension.

In spite of the attack, L&G attracted £2.3 billion of new money into pensions in the first half. It also pulled £443 million into Peps and unit trusts, and £80 million was deposited in the Legal & General bank, which was launched on July 1.

Medical sell-off at Vickers

By Dominic Walsh

VICKERS, the Challenger tanks to Rolls-Royce cars manufacturer, is to sell its medical division, raising up to £100 million.

The company has already been approached by 15 potential buyers.Earlier this year Vickers sold S&W Medico Teknik, its Danish patient-monitoring business, and yesterday it unveiled the sale of its monitoring and anaesthesia equipment business in the UK and Ireland to Instrumentarium Corporation for £4.5 million.

The Danish sale forced the company to take a £12.5 million hit on its first-half results. Pre-tax profits fell to £15 million (£31.8 million). Earnings were 5.6p (6.3p), but the interim dividend, due October 16, is maintained at 2.7p.

Negative growth blow for Japan

From Robert Whymant in Tokyo

JAPAN'S gross domestic product shrank 2.9 per cent in real terms in the three months to June 30, the biggest contraction in 23 years, the Government said yesterday.

Officials blamed the fall, representing an annual growth rate of minus 11.2 per cent, on declining personal spending and housing starts after the consumption tax was raised in April. It was the worst quarterly growth rate since the first oil crisis in 1974, prompting fears that the fragile economic recovery may stall.

The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said weak domestic demand knocked four percentage points off Japan's GDP since April, and linked it to consumer spending ahead of the tax increase.

Officials had expected negative growth, but not of this magnitude, and acknowledged that the impact of the consumption tax rise was greater than expected.

"The drop in the April-June GDP was bigger than initially expected," said Shimpei Nukaya, of the EPA. However, he said the slump in personal consumption is a short-term phenomenon, adding: "The basic trend towards economic recovery continues, although the current pace is slow."

However, Mr Nukaya admitted that the Government would be hard pressed to achieve its economic growth target of 1.9 per cent for fiscal 1997, ending next March.

The latest GDP data underlined that Japan's economic recovery is dependent on exports.

SFL invests in heart of Paris

By Carl Mortished

SOCIETE Foncière Lyonnaise, a quoted French property company controlled by Commercial Union and Hermes, the UK pension fund manager, is investing Fr2.8 billion (£290 million) to expand its real estate holdings in the heart of Paris's golden triangle.

The deals, which include properties on Avenue Montaigne, Boulevard de la Madeleine and a big development site near the Paris Opera will make SFL the fourth-largest French property company, with a Fr9 billion portfolio. SFL said yesterday that prospects for investment in Paris were promising, with yields on prime properties at 6¼ per cent, ahead of ten-year bond yields, while rents had stabilised at Fr3,000 a square metre, half their peak in 1991.

The company is buying five properties from GAN, the French insurer, for Fr676 million and is paying Société Générale Fr2,150 million for Edouard VII, a 1.5 hectare office, retail, residential and leisure development on Boulevard des Capucines, near the Paris Opera.

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Landhurst duo 'cooked books'

By Jon Ashworth

THE backers of the Brabham Formula One motor racing team accepted thousands of pounds in bribes in return for loans and would have leased "the very tyres" in their bid to deceive bankers, the Old Bailey heard yesterday.

Ted Ball, founder of Landhurst Leasing, and David Ashworth, the joint managing director, "cooked the books" and took £420,000 in backhanders in return for keeping Brabham afloat. In one instance, £60,000 in cash was handed over in a briefcase at a service station on the M1 motorway, the court heard.

Mr Ball 49, from Hartfield, East Sussex, and Mr Ashworth, 45, from South Ascot, Berkshire, deny conspiring to defraud a syndicate of banks led by Guinness Mahon out of millions of pounds between 1990 and 1992. They further deny taking bribes in return for advancing millions in loans to Middlebridge Group, which bought Brabham in 1990 from Bernie Ecclestone, the Formula One promoter.

Timothy Langdale, QC, opening for the Serious Fraud Office, told the jury that Mr Ball had a desire to be "one of the major players" in motor racing, and talked as if he owned Brabham.

Ecclestone: sold Brabham

The court heard that Landhurst advanced "very substantial sums" to Middlebridge, backed by Khoji Nakauchi, a Japanese businessman. Mr Ball and Mr Ashworth conspired to pour millions "down the Brabham drain", concealing the losses from bankers.

By 1990, Middlebridge was "running out of things to lease" to satisfy its desperate need for cash. Mr Ball and Mr Ashworth advanced £320,000 against racing car engines and loaned £500,000 against a Ferrari that did not even belong to Middlebridge. Some £1.2 million was loaned against machinery and racing cars with no engines. Mr Langdale told the jury: "One can be forgiven for feeling that Ball would be prepared to write a lease on the very tyres of a car which had been changed in a pitstop."

The case continues today.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Arjo Wiggins shows benefits of shake-up

ARJO WIGGINS APPLETON, the Anglo-French paper group, yesterday reported a sharp jump in first-half profits as the effects of its restructuring began to kick in. Pre-tax profits improved from £32.3 million to £106.3 million, although turnover was 11.6 per cent lower at £1.64 billion as a result of the impact of sterling. The results compare with a particularly poor first half in 1996, a period the company described as the worst since it was demerged from BAT Industries in 1990. The results were boosted by lower pulp costs and improved market conditions. The biggest turnaround came in European manufacturing where operating profits recovered to £39.8 million from a loss of £6.2 million.

The carbonless and thermal papers business made a modest trading profit in contrast to sharp losses this time last year. The key factor was the £120 million restructuring announced in November 1995. The full benefits will not be felt until next year when Arjo is looking for £50 million of cost savings. The improved performance is expected to reduce pressure on the group to seek a merger partner as a solution to its problems. The dividend, to be paid on November 18 as a foreign income dividend, is unchanged at 2.9p. Earnings per share rose were 8.4p (2.2p).

Luton airport targeted

NATIONAL EXPRESS, Britain's largest train operator, is considering a formal bid to run Luton airport in the aftermath of a failed takeover approach by Stelios Haji-Ioannou, owner of EasyJet. The company already runs East Midlands and Bournemouth airports and is bidding for Bristol airport. Yesterday National Express reported pre-tax profits of £23.5 million (£20.4 million) for the six months to June 30, lifting earnings to 13.2p (10.5p) a share. An interim dividend of 4p (3.4p) is due October 24. The shares rose 29½p to 518p.

Utility guidelines sought

THE Department of Trade and Industry and utility regulators were yesterday pressed to set out clear guidelines for competition in utilities to ensure fair treatment for all consumers and stem customer confusion. Sharon Dee, senior researcher with the Consumers' Association, said regional and income-based differences were emerging between utilities' customers. She called for links between the DTI and Department of Social Security so that benefits related more to the outgoings of those on benefit.

Cortecs loss deepens

CORTECS INTERNATIONAL, the biotechnology company created by Glen Travers, the Australian broker, yesterday disappointed the market with a larger than expected pre-tax loss of £11.7 million for the year ended June 30, compared with a loss of £3.8 million in the previous period. Turnover fell 27 per cent from £10.5 million to £7.7 million, while losses per share rose to 7.9p, from 3p. No dividend will be paid. The increased loss was blamed on higher research and development expenses.

Invisibles seeks merger

BRITISH INVISIBLES, the private sector body that promotes the international activities of UK-based finance institutions and professional services, is recommending a merger with Ceenet, the export promotion and inward investment group set up and funded by the Corporation of London. Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, has invited Lord Hurd of Westwell, currently deputy chairman of British Invisibles, to chair the combined organisation upon the retirement of the present chairmna, Sir Brian Pearse.

Aspen issues warning

ASPEN, the marketing communications company, has given warning that difficulties in its print division and one-off charges will lead to disappointing earnings for the full year. In the half year to June 30, Aspen incurred an operating loss of £340,000, compared with a profit of £500,000, on turnover on continuing operations of £47 million, up 2.9 per cent. The poorer results were a result of higher operating costs, including severance costs for the previous chairman. The shares lost 1½p to 115p.

Quieter time at Bentalls

BENTALLS, the department stores group, yesterday said that it has experienced a quieter start to second-half trading amid signs that the impact of building society windfalls is diminishing. The company reported profits of £1.38 million before tax and exceptional items in its first half-year to August 2, up from £400,000. Adjusted earnings per share were 6.76p (0.60p). The interim dividend rises to 0.7p a share, from 0.6p. The company also booked an exceptional profit of £6.6 million on property disposals.

Minorco earnings up 7%

COST-CUTTING at Minorco, the mining group controlled by Anglo American Corp and De Beers, both of South Africa, helped to lift earnings before exceptional items by 7 per cent, to $214 milllion (£135 million), in the half year to June 30. Analysts said the cost-reduction effort was evidence that Minorco is preparing to take on new projects, such as the Collahuasi copper project in Chile and the Cerro Vanguardia gold mine in Argentina. Minorco's results were slightly better than expected. The dividend rises 1 cent to to 22 cents.

Davis lifts dividend

DAVIS SERVICE GROUP, the business services company, is lifting its interim dividend 10 per cent, to 3.73p a share, after reporting a 40.3 per cent rise in profits, to £17.2 million, from £12.2 million, before tax and non-recurring items. Adjusted earnings per share rose 10.2 per cent, to 8.43p. Group turnover was £202.2 million, compared with £157.3 million. Much of the increase was attributed to the inclusion of Spring Grove, acquired in October 1996. The acquisition gave rise to restructuring costs of £2.8 million.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.13
Austria Sch	21.01	19.35
Belgium Fr	61.92	56.96
Canada $	2.337	2.149
Cyprus Cyp£	0.884	0.812
Denmark Kr	11.42	10.53
Finland Mkk	9.07	8.32
France Fr	10.09	9.26
Germany Dm	3.01	2.77
Greece Dr	474	435
Hong Kong $	13.14	11.94
Iceland	128	108
Ireland Pt	1.11	1.03
Israel Shk	5.89	5.24
Italy Lira	2951	2714
Japan Yen	204.53	187.00
Malta	0.680	0.601
Netherlds Gld	3.398	3.101
New Zealand $	2.66	2.43
Norway Kr	12.31	11.37
Portugal Esc	301.53	278.50
S Africa Rd	8.18	7.22
Spain Pta	251.29	232.50
Sweden Kr	13.18	12.66
Switzerland Fr	2.50	2.28
Turkey Lira	279749	259871
USA $	1.695	1.552

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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Democracy at the City gates

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Revolution is afoot in the City. Yesterday, Guildhall witnessed events which, only months ago, few would have dreamed possible. Democracy, of a sort, may be about to dawn. Gathered together, those who govern the Square Mile apparently took note of the current mood for modernisation of ancient institutions. They accepted that an alderman, once elected, should not stay elected for life. They also agreed that it was no longer appropriate for the existing aldermen to be able to veto the appointment to their ranks of newcomers legitimately chosen by the electorate.

Such changes might sound belated to the citizens of parts of eastern Europe or Africa, but in the high-tech financial centre of the City, they are breath-taking.

For until now the 25 aldermen of the City have fought tenaciously for the continuance of an antiquated system which appears to outsiders to have all the least attractive characteristics of a self-perpetuating cabal. It is less than two years ago that the City battled through the courts to preserve the aldermen's rights to refuse to accept the appointment of a man whom voters, albeit these are an extraordinarily restricted breed in the City, had chosen as their representative.

Not many people of sound mind might wish to have joined the strange club from which the Lord Mayor of London eventually clambers into his fancy coach, but Malcolm Matson, a millionaire entrepreneur, did. The existing aldermen did not want him, and their cowardly insistence on taking refuge behind their right not to explain why, raised harsh and unwarranted question marks over the man's character.

It would be cheering to think that the aldermen had agreed to behave differently because they now accept the inequity of their behaviour but that is not the case. The government of the City is bowing to the need to change because the national Government has demanded it do so. What it is trying to do, without giving up too many of the trappings, is to come up with a formula which will convince Mr Blair that it deserves to continue as a separate local authority.

As part of that process, it also agreed yesterday that it would explore ways of extending the City franchise beyond its current narrow confines, which effectively hands over control of certain wards to a few partners of professional firms.

It now falls to the very capable City bureaucrats to draw up proposals on how these plans might be put into practice. Then there will be a vote at Guildhall. Before then, the aldermen will have donned their plumage and paraded through the streets to show off the new Lord Mayor. If that was all that these would-be worthies got up to, their arcane electoral procedures would be of little concern. But the City Corporation has all the powers of a local authority and great wealth to boot. If the Square Mile is to have its own authority, it needs to show it can stand up to modern ideas of democracy.

Focusing to be fashionable

It must be lonely at Tomkins. Only last year the likes of Hanson, BTR and Williams stood proudly in the diversified industrial sector, giving it a strong representation among Britain's leading companies. With Hanson having sold its tobacco, chemical and electricity businesses and moved to building materials, Williams joining business services and the new "focusing-for-growth" BTR heading to engineering, Greg Hutchings' guns-to-buns group will be the only conglomerate to admit to the tag left in the FTSE 100.

Ian Strachan's decision to end BTR's quarter of a century as a conglomerate at least shows that he had been listening to what the City has been telling him. There may be some carping about the two-stage process. After all, if Strachan knew he was going to slim the group down to half its size and only keep engineering companies, why did he not say all this when he announced the first set of disposals a year ago? And there must be concern that BTR is selling its packaging business — a star performer during the early-1990s. But Strachan always said it would take time to turn the supertanker around. And if it turns out that selling packaging now — when it needs heavy investment to reignite its growth — is a mistake, then its will be the City's fault as much as Strachan's. You could hardly imagine him asking for a couple of billion to invest in packaging given the City's belief that BTR has no strategy.

But Strachan, like Sir Nigel Rudd at Williams, has answered the clarion call for focus that has rung louder and louder, like an electronic alarm clock, during the last five years. The diversified industrial sector has so underperformed the market that it is no wonder its stalwarts are heading for the hills. Yet the idea that the conglomerate is dead is plainly wrong. Look at General Electric, Hutchison Whampoa or, dare we say it, Granada. After all, what is a company that has television, hotels and rentals if it is not a conglomerate? The idea that a good management should be able to turn its skills to business areas not directly in its own sphere has not died. It is just that many of the stars who made conglomerates fashionable in the 1980s ran out of ideas in the 1990s.

The Owen Greens and James Hansons of the millennium are out there. Focus is fashionable now but the real issue is management. Managers lead. And Strachan has yet to show that he is anything but a dedicated follower of fashion.

Japan Inc sinking in red ink

Asia's worst economic problem is now Japan. The industrial superpower's recession was supposed to yield a respectable 1.9 per cent rate of growth in 1997-98. That in turn was supposed to allow deficit finance to be run down at last and short-term interest rates edged up to support the yen and keep America sweet.

Inatead, it is all going in reverse. A rise in consumption tax from 3 per cent to 5 per cent, appropriately brought in on April 1, produced a mini spree in advance, followed by mass desertion of stores since.

Total output fell 2.9 per cent in the April to June quarter, reversing 1.4 per cent growth in January to March. To meet official forecasts, growth would have to average 2.1 per cent in each of the next three quarters.

The only way this could happen is if growth is export-led, like the old days. And that means sales to North America and Europe. Japan now faces markets shrinking in Malaysia, South Korea and the other wounded tigers. Political trouble is already resurfacing as trade surpluses grow month by month.

Ten-year bond yields dipped below a lowest-ever 2 per cent at the end of August and share prices measured by the Nikkei index are still sagging at less than half their late 1989 peak. The consequence is that Japan's army of retired people, who rely on the returns on their savings, have no money to spend. Things have become so silly that a rise in interest rates should help to boost consumer spending.

Limelight shunned

THE hefty partnership of Cazenove and Rothschild brought Limelight to the stock market less than a year ago. Since then the kitchens and bathroom group has seen its market value decimated. There were optimistic suggestions that the founder, Stephen Boler, might try to take the group public. Having taken £60 million profits at the time of the float, Mr Boler understandably prefers to enjoy himself elsewhere.

United Biscuits has to digest £31m provision

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

UNITED BISCUITS reported sharply lower interim profits yesterday because of costly factory disposals, poor crisp sales in Britain and a "Tazo attack" in Australia.

The company made a £31.5 million provision to cover the cost of disposing of its factory in Hjorring, Denmark, and closing its Broxburn site in West Lothian. No further factory sales or closures are planned.

As a result of the provision, pre-tax profit fell from £44.9 million to £13.7 million in the six months to July 12. The company blamed the strong pound for the modest rise in pre-exceptional profit to £45.1 million.

UK sales of its crisps were disappointing in the first half. Combined crisp and snack sales fell 4 per cent, with own-label crisps doing particularly badly. Sales of snacks such as Hula Hoops and Skips and KP nuts were all ahead.

John Warren, finance director, said: "The crisp business is being looked at very carefully." New management has been put in place, but disposal of the business is not being actively considered, he said. Disposals of any poorly performing divisions that fail to improve are not ruled out, however.

In Australia, the group continued to feel the impact of an 18-month-long "Tazo attack" by PepsiCo of the US. The popularity of the collectable plastic discs placed in snack packets by PepsiCo hit sales of United Biscuits products, which control over 50 per cent of the Australian market.

Eric Nicoli, chief executive, said that the group's "robust" response — putting alternative plastic toys into United Biscuits packets — had been extremely expensive. "The cost is higher than we anticipated, but we're confident we're doing the right thing," he said. He declined to say exactly how much it had cost the company, but said that Australia remained profitable, although less so than last year. UB's market share has now been stablised and PepsiCo's only success in Australia had been a slight increase in its grocery market share, he said.

He added that PepsiCo had now given up its Tazo campaign in Australia, and United Biscuits would soon join it by dropping its inclusion of plastic toys in snack packets. The "Tazo attack" is the the fourth such incident in 15 years he said. Before Australia, a similar campaign was launched in the Benelux countries.

Elsewhere in Asia, sales grew, with China ahead by 17 per cent.

In Britain, sales of the Linda McCartney frozen vegetarian foods were strongly ahead, although frozen and chilled food sales altogether were down 6 per cent. The company said that McVitie's Go Ahead! low fat snacks were selling well after what it called "UB's most successful ever new product launch".

The company is maintaining its interim dividend at 3.5p on pre-exceptional earnings per share of 6.2p (5.9p).

Coats Viyella sees decline across clothing divisions

By Jennifer Hanawald

A POOR performance from Jaeger, contract clothing and other divisions pushed profits down at the Coats Viyella textiles group in the first half and triggered an 11 per cent drop in its share price yesterday.

Kirk Stephenson, finance director, said investors will have to wait until the year end to hear the results of a strategic review initiated by Michael Ost, chief executive.

Disappointment over an 11 per cent drop in pre-tax profit to £41.5 million and lack of news on future direction led to profit forecast downgrades from about £140 million for the full year to between £90 million and £100 million. The shares fell 13p to 108p.

Sir David Alliance, chairman, took the dip in the share price as a buying opportunity, adding a quarter of a million shares to his holdings.

"We are echoing the same themes we articulated in May," Mr Stephenson said. "Some areas are better than last year, others are worse."

Contract clothing incurred an operating loss of £8 million (£2.4 million loss). Restructuring begun last year continued to disrupt production in the hosiery and women's wear divisions. Good sales growth in Marks & Spencer lines failed to offset the losses.

Fashion retail and branded clothing made £3.5 million (£9.2 million) after an unpopular Jaeger spring range and weakness in Berhaus's Russian business. Thread, which accounts for almost half of turnover, made £46 million (£48.6 million). Currency translation from overseas units wiped £4.6 million off profits.

Earnings per share were down 15 per cent to 3.4p; the dividend stays at 3.7p.

Alliance: bought shares

BARRY GREENWOOD

BRUNNER MOND, the alkaline chemical maker, yesterday reported a 14 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £18.8 million, in the year to June 30 on turnover of £145.7 million, up 5 per cent. Earnings per share were up 11 per cent, to 18.2p, and a final dividend of 5.8p will be paid on November 10, bringing the total dividend to 8.7p. The shares, which have performed poorly since the company floated last September at 170p, edged up 1p to 152½p in spite of a statement from David Wertheim, right, the chief executive. He said: "We want the share price to reflect the value of the company, which I believe is much higher than the price at which it floated." Richard Bell, managing director, left, has seen the group make a slow start to the current year because of the strong pound and economic uncertainty in South East Asia.

Enterprise Oil advances

Enterprise Oil said it was on track to achieve a daily oil production rate of 320,000 barrels per day by 1999 despite a slowdown in production in the first half of this year. Net profit after tax for the six months to June was up 8 per cent, to £80 million, including a £9 million gain from changes in corporation tax.

Revenues from oil and gas sales fell 4 per cent because of the stronger pound, which reduced turnover by £25 million, and lower production, which trimmed revenue by £14 million, partly offset by higher dollar oil prices. Oil and gas output fell 3 per cent to 229,935 bpd due to maintenance work on the Scott and Nelson fields but Enterprise expects the second half to average 240,000 bpd. An interim dividend of 6.9p (6.5p) comes from earnings per share of 14.6p (13.5p).

Ramco bid under threat

A £54 million agreed bid by Ramco for JKX, the oil and gas company chaired by Sir Robert Horton, has been jeopardised by the purchase of an 11 per cent stake in JKX by UkraGazprom, the Ukrainian state oil and gas company, and its Swiss partner National Petroleum. They paid 52p a share, against Ramco's offer of 46.3p. Sources close to National Petroleum yesterday said the purchase was not a rival bid, but an attempt to keep JKX independent.

Troubled Limelight sees shares tumble

By Sarah Cunningham

A DISASTROUS first-half performance and another profit warning from Limelight, the home improvement company floated less than a year ago, triggered a 42 per cent drop in its share price yesterday (Commentary, see this page).

The company said that a "disappointing first half and continuing problems in Portland [its windows division] will mean that the outcome for the year will be significantly lower than previously anticipated".

The company made an interim pre-tax profit of £94,000, compared with £1 million a year ago. It will not pay an interim dividend. Its shares, which floated at 175p, closed at 37½p, down 27p.

Sales at Moben Kitchens, its kitchen retailing company, dropped 32 per cent in the first half. Steve Cotter, managing director, blamed a difficult market but also said that a BBC *Watchdog* programme which criticised Moben also had an effect. Limelight is suing the BBC for libel.

Mr Cotter said that Stephen Boler, the former chairman of the group reported to be considering taking the company private again, had written to the board assuring it that this was not his intention.

The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Public Limited Company

Interim Dividend 1997

Notice is hereby given that a balance of the Register will be struck on Friday, 3rd October, 1997 for the preparation of warrants for an Interim dividend for the year 1997 of 5.1p per 25p Ordinary share payable on Monday, 3rd November, 1997.

For transferees to receive this dividend, their transfers must be lodged with the Company's Registrar:–
Lloyds Bank Registrars, The Causeway, Worthing,
West Sussex BN99 6DA, not later than 3pm on
3rd October, 1997.

Share Warrants to Bearer

The Coupon to be presented for the above dividend will be No. 199 which must be deposited at Lloyds Bank Registrars, Receiving Bank Services, Ground Floor, P.O. Box 1000, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL (not later than 3rd October, 1997, to receive payment on 3rd November, 1997) or may be surrendered through Messieurs Lazard Frères et Cie, 121 boulevard Haussmann, 75382, Paris Cedex 08.

By Order of the Board
Miss J.E. Munsiff
Secretary

Shell Centre,
London SE1 7NA
11th September, 1997

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

Booker hit by strong pound and weak price of salmon

By Eric Reguly

CHEAP salmon prices and the expensive pound pushed down profits at Booker, the food processor and distributor. It said that the strength of sterling would continue to put pressure on earnings.

The price of salmon plunged early this year when the Norwegians dumped huge quantities of the fish on the market.

The European Commission later intervened by putting a minimum price on salmon. But Booker said that the effect of the minimum price, which was set in ecus, "has been completely negated by the appreciation of the pound". Booker also said that high feed prices had damaged profits at its American poultry operations, Arbor Acres Farm Group and Nicholas Turkey. Charles Bowen, chief executive, said: "Our chicken products are improving steadily, but we expect it will be several years before we can re-establish ourselves as the clear market leader."

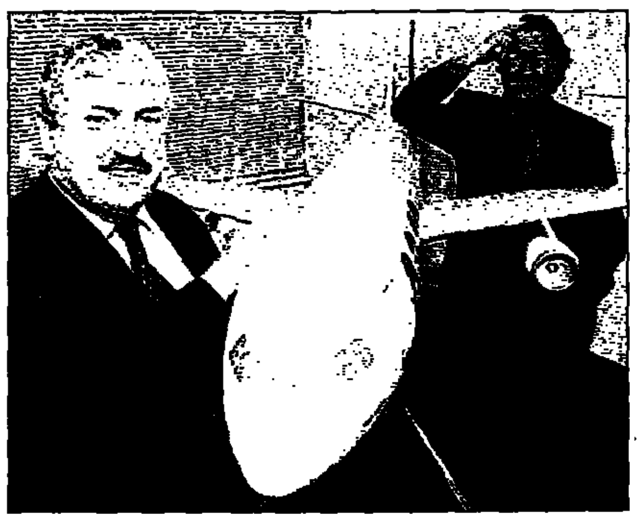
Pre-tax profits fell 47 per cent, to £17.2 million, in the 24 weeks to June 14, on turnover that climbed 35 per cent to £2.35 billion. The rise was largely due to the purchase last year of Nurdin & Peacock, the food wholesaler.

Earnings per share were halved to 4.1p. The interim dividend rises 2.5 per cent to 8.3p. Booker said full-year profits will fall by about £7 million if sterling's value remains unchanged.

Brokers said the results were in line with expectations and that the shares, which fell 29½p to 287½p, were hit by the comments on the currency problems. Mr Bowen said he was confident that Booker could achieve the City profit estimates of 34p to 38p a share in 1998.

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Investors caught cold by Wall Street wobble



Sir Richard Evans, left, chief executive, and Richard Lapthorne, finance director, of BAe, off 45p yesterday

SHARE PRICES in London closed at their low point of the session as New York extended Wednesday's 132-point fall in early trading last night.

Wall Street's wobble caught *investors round* the world on the hop, prompting sharp falls *overnight in* Tokyo and Hong Kong. At the close of business *in London, the Dow* Jones industrial average had lost a further *128 points on* US worries about third-quarter corporate earnings *due soon.*

In the event, the FTSE 100 index *suffered a steady decline* to close 50.4 down, at 4,854.8. The decision to peg *interest* rates at 7 per cent brought little comfort. *Instead* investors focused on a mixed bag of domestic trading statements from a long list of blue chip companies.

An upbeat statement on future prospects lifted **BTR** 15p to 234p as US buyers came in. Turnover reached 66.5 million shares making it the heaviest traded stock as well *as making* up a large percentage of the total 717 million *shares to change hands*. Elsewhere, trading statements left ***British Aerospace*** 45p *off at* £15.10½. **Rio Tinto** 29p at 996p, **Centrica** 2¼p at 87p, **Booker** 29½p at 287½p, **Coats Viyella** 13p at 108p and **Vickers** 11½p at 193½p.

The repercussions from the Wall Street sell-off touched companies traded in London with big interests in the Far East. **HSBC** tumbled 69½p, to £19.12, under a fresh wave of selling, while **Standard Chartered** dipped 12p to 787p, and **Inchcape** slipped 1p to 270p *ahead of figures next week.*

NatWest Bank rose 10p to 834p *on suggestions that the* group is close to selling its investment banking arm NatWest Markets.

It was the morning after the night before for companies promoted this week to the FTSE 100 index. **Norwich Union** fell 13½p to 327½p as Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, came out with a "sell" *recommendation. It says the* group's rating is higher than ***Prudential**, down 6p at 629p*, and that is unjustified. **Woolwich** *slipped* 3½p to 315p after being promoted, along with **Williams** 9p to 350p, and **Billiton** 3½p to 244p.

Those being relegated also came under selling pressure. **Burmah Castrol** was left nursing a fall of 22p at £10.70½, while **Hanson** was 1p lighter at 308½p, **Imperial Tobacco** 4p off at 391½p, **Tate & Lyle** 2p easier at 403p, and **Mercury Asset Management** 3p off at £12.25½.

Rank Group, 1p lighter at 349½p, has bought back a further 6 million shares at 350p from BZW and NatWest Securities. **Caradon** firmed *2p* to 190½p as it bought back 1.27 *million of its own shares* at 190¼p. Cazenove, the broker, did the business. **Tomkins**, *4½p better at 321½p*, has also bought back 1 million of its own shares at 317p.

Psion, the hand-held computer maker, appears to have shrugged off recent weakness caused by production difficulties and a profits warning, with the price adding 24p to 443½p, after briefly touching 457½p. Brokers say prospects for its new Series 5 outweigh short-term problems.

UBS, the broker, has been appointed the "shop" to Waste Recycling. Its first task yesterday was to help to place 13.2 million shares with various institutions at 260p. The proceeds of £34.4 million will go towards financing the acquisition of Finstop, the Yorkshire-based landfill business for £14.5 million, and repaying its debts of up to £13.2 million. **Waste Recycling** closed 9p lower, at 278½p.

Birmingham City was steady at 52p after splashing *out £1.5 million* on John McCarthy, the Port Vale winger.

***Pittard** dropped 9p to 83½p* after giving warning that the *strong pound and turbulence* in Asian markets would make a dent *in second-half profits.* The company exports 60 per cent of its output.

Trading conditions are looking brighter at **Sidlaw**, up 6½p at 87p. The flexible packaging group says that profits for the year will be ahead of expectations, with the pick-up seen in the first half carrying on through to the second.

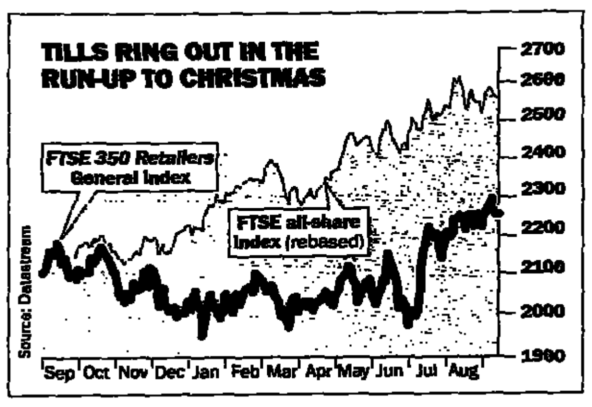
It was good news all round for **Jackson Group**, with the price adding 11½p at 49½p. The building and construction *group has received a bid* approach and says its trading position has improved.

Biocompatibles International *showed signs* of bottoming out after this week's disastrous performance. The shares closed 25p better at 575p but remain 567½p down on the week. It follows the decision of **Johnson & Johnson**, the US group, not to license its surgical equipment-coating product. By the close almost 1.5 million shares had changed hands.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London bond market *outperformed* rival continental markets although the decision to peg interest rates at 7 per cent made only minimal positive impact. In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt rose £⅛, to £115¹⁄₁₆, as a total of 37,000 contracts were completed. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was *five ticks better at £110¹⁵⁄₁₆*, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was unchanged at £102²⁹⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Blue chips fell further on continued worries about third-quarter earnings. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 89.66 points, at 7,629.62.

TILLS RING OUT IN THE RUN-UP TO CHRISTMAS



Source: Datastream

SALES fell 9 per cent at John Lewis last week, as the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, affected the retailers, many of which remained closed on Saturday mnorning. The British Retail Consortium has confirmed that August was *disapointing amid signs* that the effect of windfalls *is fizzling out. This may* bode badly in the run-up to Christmas. However, Roy Maconochie at Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, disagrees: "I think it is just a blip." He noted that John Lewis had closed on Saturday for the funeral.

He expects spending to be steady through the autumn. Last year's November Budget deterred spending up until the last minute before Christmas.

"Consumers remain selective about where they spend their money. Spending has diminished but its not gone away. The *windfalls are a built-in confidence factor*," he adds.

He expects good performances from Kingfisher, down 8p at 748p, and Next, 8½p off at 754½p, ahead of figures next week. Dixons, unmoved at 635p, should also do well.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	*7629.62 (-89.66)*
S&P Composite	908.54 (-10.49)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	18282.23 (-422.54)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	14308.30 (-497.14)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	856.02 (-21.54)
Sydney:	
AO	2665.8 (-0.7)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	3972.55 (-77.59)
Singapore:	
Straits	1927.68 (-16.95)
Brussels:	
General	13231.04 (-239.51)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2843.60 (-30.97)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1125.90 (-15.50)
London:	
FT 30	3138.0 (-5.0)
FTSE 100	4854.8 (-50.4)
FTSE 250	4633.2 (-31.5)
FTSE 350	2345.3 (-22.8)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2545.66 (-55.48)
FTSE All-Share	2294.72 (-21.29)
FTSE Non Financials	*2319.72 (-19.43)*
FTSE Fixed Interest	125.89 (-0.10)
FTSE Govt Secs	97.41 (+0.07)
Bargains	37476
SEAQ Volume	717.9m
US$	1.5880 (+0.0014)
German Mark	2.8449 (-0.0132)
Exchange Index	99.7 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4486
£:SDR	1.1678
RPI	158.5 Aug (3.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	157.1 Aug (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Antofgsta Cv Uts	397½	...
Bristol & West Prf	110	+ ¼
Cammell Laird	137½	+ 1
EMI B	115	...
GR Holdings	52½	...
Galen Holdings	265½	+ 1
Helicon Pubsig	92½	...
I S Solutions	135½	...
Kingfisher Leisure	176½	...
Reabourne Merlin	108	...
SBS Group	110½	...
Severn Trent B	37½	...
Stentor Warrants	46	− ½
Style Holdings	84½	− ½
Thorn B	20½	...
Viglen Technology	65	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Langdons Foods n/p (1)	½	+ ½
Misys Uts Cnv n/p	157½	− 25
SEET n/p (30)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Cohen (A)	400p (+65p)
BTR	234p (+15p)
Natl Express	518p (+29½p)
Psion	443½p (+24p)
Ash & Lacy	172½p (+20p)
BS Group	155p (+12½p)
Rathbone Bros	357½p (+17p)
Nat West	834p (+10p)
Stagecoach	680p (+7½p)
Cosalt	207½p (+8p)
Real Time	273p (+8p)
Carrs Milling	310p (+7½p)
Cattles	362p (+8½p)
Davis Service	*296½p (+12p)*
BSS Group	587½p (+15p)
Brammer	595p (+10p)
Biocomps Intl	575p (+25p)
Photobition	680p (+15p)
PizzaExpress	719p (+13p)

FALLS:

Trust Motor GP	189p (-11p)
Impala Plant	650p (-25p)
Domino	312p (-12p)
Cortecs	206½p (-7p)
Rio Tinto	996p (-29p)
BT	*390½p (-11p)*

Closing Prices Page 28

TEMPUS

Flight into blue skies

BRITISH AEROSPACE was a little bit too subtle in its warning yesterday *that* repayment of launch aid for the Airbus A320 would depress civil aircraft profits over *the next two* years. The profitability of Airbus is a well-kept secret, so one can forgive the City's *aerospace* analysts for not spotting that BAe would be paying some £360 million back to *the Treasury* over the next three years. Normally, BAe is so unhelpful in explaining where its *profits* come from that one might speculate why it wishes the world to know the precise timing *of the repayment* of these loans and their impact on profits. Could it have anything to do with *current* negotiations between the Airbus partners over the creation of a single Airbus company? *BAe is by* far the most profitable of the partners, but it would be unfortunate if it had to share *that* value pro rata among *its* less efficient partners.

Still, even after deducting the launch aid, the downward adjustment *to profit forecasts* for 1999 earnings is only 3 per cent, well within normal margins of error. What will *drive BAe profits* forward over the next three years is not Airbus but the colossal *growth in the defence order* book. The resulting surge in profits will stand BAe in good stead as talks continue over *the development* of a pan-European defence contractor. No alliance can meaningfully *take place* without BAe, nor is it reasonable to suggest that any other company could lead it. BAe shares have achieved a tremendous rise on the back of defence orders and are now priced at *13 times earnings* in 1999. By that stage, the civil aircraft profits should be soaring, so there is no reason *to sell the stock* now.

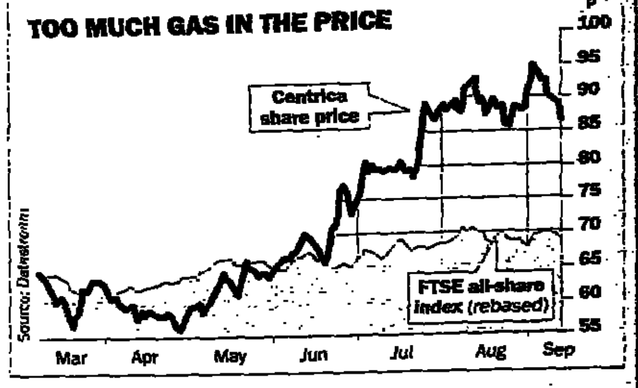
Centrica

WHAT is driving the revival in Centrica shares, the gas supply company which made its dismal debut on the stock market last year? Some still reckon it a takeover target for a rival gas supplier seeking its customer franchise. *Yet*, a potential bidder would need to secure a deal over the British Gas brand which could revert to BG *on a change of control*. Likewise, some profitable industrial supply contracts might be subject to renegotiation.

Centrica's *management* has impressed the City, tackling inherited problems, such as the famously poor customer service but the company has only half solved its take-or-pay problem with a gas input price at which gas can be bought on the spot market.

But for all the solid progress, Centrica still has worries. The *full opening of the* domestic gas market to competition next year *will inevitably* lead to loss of customers. Centrica's strategy is *to* move into the electricity market and provide a "one-stop" energy shop. A deal with a generator should be announced in the next few months. But with the company not expected to make a profit from electricity, it could prove an expensive way to keep its customers. Inevitably, price competition will increase, while the company admits it is still a long way from *showing a profit*. Centrica is trying hard but without the *expectation of a rapid return* to profit the shares cannot *warrant such a rating.*

TOO MUCH GAS IN THE PRICE



Source: Datastream

National Express

NATIONAL EXPRESS is fast becoming the darling of the transport sector. Unlike its train-operating peers, it has shown itself able to cut the cost of running a railway without any of the chaotic cancellations demonstrated by Connex and Stagecoach.

After shedding 650 employees from the payroll and *running up a £6 million bill* for redundancy pay, National *Express is still making* a healthy profit, which will grow in the next few years, bolstered by a guaranteed government subsidy. Administrative staff are being pooled from its five franchises into one unit and the company is using its market *muscle* to extract good deals from train rental companies, caterers and other services.

Boasting organic passenger growth of 6.5 per cent, the rail franchises' achievements may be too good to be true. Much of the growth is being achieved by catching fare *dodgers who deprived* British Rail of 10 per cent of its income. *However, such* efficiencies demonstrate how good managers can make a railway profitable and do so faster than the City expected. With its slimmed-down cost base, National Express should see further growth, with some 13 years of the franchise left to run. Yet the shares are sitting on an *earnings ratio of 14 times* — a discount to the market of 30 per cent. *This anomaly will* soon correct itself.

Rio Tinto

RIO TINTO painted a glowing picture of its operations yesterday. Volumes were up, the Kennecott smelter's troubles are coming to an end and the promised efficiencies *from the merger with CRA* are coming through to the bottom *line.*

Unfortunately, the dividend was the only sad item on the agenda. The interim has been pegged at last year's level, in part because Rio Tinto is worried about the *Government's ham-fisted* policy confusion over foreign *income dividends*. More important is the need to restore dividend cover, which has falen well below two times. However, the good news is that estimates of the impact of the merger cost reductions on Rio Tinto's earnings seems to have increased by *$30 million*, to $150 million, in a full year.

Worries about copper surpluses and the prospect of increased production from new mines will act as a brake on Rio Tinto's price, but worldwide demand for base metals is not diminishing and, curiously, most of the growth has been in OECD countries, suggesting that wobbly financial markets in the Far East *should not be a concern. After* the recent slide, the shares are *looking interesting.*

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Sep	1082 SLR	Dec	1184 SLR
Dec	1113-1112	Mar	1201 SLR
Mar	1133 SLR	May	1215-1212
May	1152 SLR	Jul	1227-1226
Jul	1169 SLR		
Sep	1183-1180		Volume: 5788

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1605-1600	May	1608 SLR
Nov	1623-1622	Jul	unq
Jan	1626-1625	Sep	...
Mar	1615-1613		Volume: 2340

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	324.9-24.3
Spot: n/a		Aug	323.9-22.8
Oct	319.0-18.5	Oct	319.5-17.8
Dec	321.5-20.0	Dec	319.5-16.8
May	324.9-24.3		Volume: 2942

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on September 10

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	80.06	114.01	98.71
(+/-)	-2.06	+2.72	-0.80
Eng/Wales:	80.06	114.43	97.90
(+/-)	-2.06	+2.71	-0.78
(%)	+18.0	-6.0	-16.0
Scotland:	unq	112.46	102.46
(+/-)	...	+3.07	-0.95
(%)	...	+12.0	-15.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	*18.35*	*+0.15*
Brent 15 day (Oct)	18.55	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Nov)	18.65	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	*19.65*	*+0.20*
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	19.75	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	217 (-1)	220 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	163 (+2)	164 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	90 (n/c)	92 (n/c)
Naphtha	185 (-1)	189 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Oct	164.00-64.25	*Jan*	*169.50-69.75*
Nov	165.75-66.00	Feb	170.5-71.00
Dec	167.75-68.00		Vol: 28751

BRENT (6.00pm)

Oct	18.48-18.49	Jan	18.67-18.73
Nov	18.56-18.58	Feb	*18.65 BID*
Dec	18.66 SLR		Vol: 41558

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	87.00	Sep	81.00
Nov	88.25	Nov	83.25
Jan	90.10	Jan	85.25
Mar	92.10	Mar	87.25
May	94.10	May	88.50
Volume: 374		*Volume: 214*	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	*62.0*
Mar	—	*98.5*
Apr	118.0	118.5
		Volume: 18

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Sep 60.50-61.00

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Sep 97	1305	1300	1300
Oct 97	1440	1435	1435
Nov 97	unq	—	1465
Jan 98	—	—	1465
Vol: 67 lots		*Open Interest: 2866*	

Index 1299 -6

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2125.0-2126.0	2145.0-2146.0	1325075
Lead ($/tonne)	636.00-637.00	647.50-648.00	206000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1650.0-1652.0	1447.5-1448.5	663000
Tin ($/tonne)	5415.0-5420.0	5455.0-5460.0	26295
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1616.0-1617.0	1627.0-1628.0	1778850
Nickel ($/tonne)	6545.0-6550.0	6640.0-6645.0	82356

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
ASDA	140	8	13	16	3	5½	7
(*145)	160	1	4½	7	15½	17	18
Abbey Ntl	800	64	99½	113	12	34	45
(*848½)	850	34	71½	85½	31½	56	69
All&Lei	600	53½	71	86	4	10½	24
(*645½)	650	20½	40	57½	20	29½	45
Alld Dom	460	17	29	37½	14	30	34
(*460)	500	4	14	22	41½	56½	59½
BAA	550	18½	36	49	16	27	30½
(*550½)	600	3	16	27½	51	58	60
BAT Ind	500	34	56½	63½	12½	23½	34
(*519)	550	11	33	39½	38½	50	60½
Barclays	1400	70½	138½	149	40½	84½	94½
(*1430½)	1450	45½	113½	123	65½	109	118½
Bass	800	45	70½	83	10	32	39½
(*831)	850	17	43½	57½	32½	57	64
Boots	800	32½	60	75½	17½	36	41½
(*810)	850	12	37½	51	46	62	68
Br Airways	650	32	55	70	14	29½	33½
(*666½)	700	10	33	45½	41½	55½	59½
BP	850	47	72	88	14½	30½	41½
(*878)	900	21½	46½	66	37½	53	64½
Br Steel	160	14½	19	23½	2½	8½	9
(*172)	180	3½	9	13½	11	18½	19
C&W	500	36	55	66½	10	23½	26½
(*523)	550	11½	31½	42	34	48	52
CU	700	57½	94½	105½	11	33½	43
(*746)	750	31	67	79	31	56	66½
GlaxoW	1200	66	110½	134	26	52½	71½
(*1232½)	1250	39	84½	107½	48½	76	94½
HSBC	1900	88	184½	227	70½	128½	167
(*1915½)	2000	45	141	178	123	180	211½
Halifax	700	35	51	62	16½	31	41½
(*704)	750	7	28½	39½	49	59	70
ICI	950	65½	102½	113½	12½	33	45
(*997)	1000	36	73½	86	32	54	67½
Land Sec	850	52½	72½	90	5	17½	22½
(*892½)	900	20	42½	60½	22½	36	43
M&S	550	42½	57	71	5	15	21
(*585)	600	13	29	42	25	36½	43½
Natl Pwr	550	28½	46	57½	13	28½	29½
(*563½)	600	7½	25	34	41½	54½	56
Nat West	800	55½	94	104	16½	41	56
(*834½)	850	27	70½	79½	38½	65	78½
Reuters	650	35	59½	72	13	29	41
(*665½)	700	13½	36	47½	41	55½	66½
Rsl&Sun	500	27½	49	57	12½	24½	36
(*513)	550	8	26½	33½	42½	52	63½
Safeway	390	15	27½	36½	8½	18	22½
(*395)	420	4½	14	22½	27	35½	39
Sainsbury	420	16	29½	39	11½	19½	24½
(*424½)	460	3	13	21	37½	43	47½
Shell	417	27½	34½	—	11½	23	—
(*426½)	433	14	26	—	19½	30½	—
SmKl Bch	525	28	47	59½	17	31	38
(*531½)	550	14½	34½	47	30½	43½	50½
Std Char	750	53½	91½	103½	18	36½	52
(*786½)	800	27	66	77½	39½	60	74
Thames W	*750*	*49*	*66*	*81½*	*8½*	*21½*	*27*
(*787)	800	19½	42	54	27½	44	50
Vodafone	300	15	26	33½	7½	15½	19
(*306)	330	3½	13	20	26½	32½	35½
Woolwich	300	22½	34½	40½	4½	11½	17
(*315)	330	8	19	25½	19½	26	32
Zeneca	1800	92½	163½	201	39	67½	90
(*1864)	1900	45	111	147½	85½	114½	136

	Series	Calls Nov	Calls Feb	Calls May	Puts Nov	Puts Feb	Puts May
BTR	220	22	30	33½	7½	12	16½
(*237)	240	11½	18½	23	16	22	26
Blue Circ	360	29½	41	46	10	12	18
(*379½)	390	14	25½	30½	24½	26	32½
Br Aero	1500	72	117½	138	49	65½	81
(*1515)	1600	29	70	90½	108	121	134½
Br Telcm	385	27½	33½	—	15	29½	—
(*393½)	425	10½	16½	—	38½	53	—
Cadbury	550	41	56	64	12½	18½	27
(*577½)	600	18	30½	38½	36	43	52
Energy Gp	600	49	56	59½	3	7½	8½
(*638)	650	14½	26½	29½	19	22	29½
Gallaher	260	15½	22	28	8	11½	16
(*273)	280	7	12½	16½	19½	22	27½
GEC	390	22	32	41½	13½	22½	26
(*395)	420	9	18½	27½	31	38	42
Grnd Met	550	42	57	69	13½	24	30
(*573½)	600	17½	32	45	38½	49½	55½
Guinness	550	38	43½	48	20	29½	33½
(*555½)	600	10	22	28	52	58½	62½
Hanson	300	18	28	33	10½	14½	20
(*308½)	330	6	15	19½	28½	32	37
Imp Tob	390	19½	28	31½	13½	24½	28½
(*391)	420	8	15	19	32½	43½	46½
Kingfshr	700	63	82½	93	15	25½	34
(*747½)	750	34½	54	65	35	46½	58
Lasmo	260	17	25	28½	8½	13½	16
(*263½)	280	7½	16	19	19	24	27
Ladbroke	240	22	28	32½	7	9½	13
(*254½)	260	11½	18	22½	16½	18½	22½
LucasVar	200	19	25	29½	4½	7½	9
(*213)	220	8½	14½	19	13	17	18½
P&O	650	32½	52	60	16½	24½	34½
(*672½)	700	11	28	35½	48	52	61½
Prudentl	600	46½	69	78½	19	30½	41
(*629)	650	21½	44	53½	44	55½	66
Rio Tinto	950	64	91½	102½	18½	27	41
(*997)	1000	35	62½	74	39½	49	63
Redland	280	19	27½	33½	10	15½	20½
(*289)	300	9½	18½	24½	21	28	31½
R-Royce	220	15½	23½	27	10½	14	17
(*223½)	240	7½	15	18½	22	25½	28½
Tesco	420	29	41	52	11½	18½	22½
(*437)	460	10½	23	32½	32½	37½	43
Utd Bisc	180	19½	25	26½	2½	4	6
(*196)	200	7	13	15½	10	12	15

	Series	Calls Sep	Calls —	Calls —	Puts Sep	Puts —	Puts —
Hillsdwn	160	4	—	—	1	—	—
(*162)	180	—	—	—	18	—	—

	Series	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Puts Sep	Puts Dec	Puts Mar
BG PLC	260	8½	21½	28½	3½	14	17½
(*264½)	280	1	13½	19½	16½	25	28½
BSkyB	460	9½	35½	48	7½	29	35
(*463)	500	1	20	31	37½	49½	57½
Br Bio	160	12	26½	34	2	15	20
(*170)	180	2	16½	25	12½	25	30
Centrica	80	8	13	14½	—	3	4½
(*87½)	90	1½	7½	9	3½	7½	9
Dixons	600	36½	62½	77½	1½	20	27
(*635)	650	4½	35½	50½	20	42	49
EMI	575	17½	49½	59½	6	27½	33
(*583½)	603	8	36	46½	22½	43	47
Granada	750	50½	78½	91	½	14	21½
(*799½)	800	11	47½	62	9½	33	38½
GUS	650	11	35	50	8½	33	40½
(*652)	700	½	17	30	48	66	71½
Llyds TSB	700	20	63½	81	8½	37	51½
(*711½)	750	2½	41	57½	41	64	78
Lonrho	110	5½	11½	14	1	3	6½
(*114½)	120	1	7	9½	6½	8	11½
Norwich	300	28	37½	48½	—	6½	8
(*327½)	330	3½	19	28	6	15½	19½
Orange	200	14½	22	28½	—	5	8
(*214)	220	1½	10½	17	7	13½	16½
Railtrck	740	30½	69	—	2	27	—
(*767½)	790	4	—	—	25½	—	—
Scot Pwr	420	35½	51½	58	—	9	13½
(*454½)	460	6	29	35	9	23½	27½
Tarmac	120	6	10½	14½	½	5	6½
(*125)	130	1	6½	10	5½	10½	12
Tomkins	300	22½	32½	38	—	5	8½
(*322)	330	1½	15	21	9½	17	21
Unilever	1700	39½	113½	156	15½	66½	83½
(*1727½)	1800	2½	68	106½	74	119	133½

September 11 Total: 29379 Calls: 11504 Puts: 17875

FTSE INDEX (*4868½)

Strike	Calls Sep	Calls Oct	Calls Nov	Calls Dec	Calls Jan	Puts Sep	Puts Oct	Puts Nov	Puts Dec	Puts Jan
4700	172½	237½	293½	338½	505½	14	70½	106½	133	223½
4750	133	201½	259½	307½	—	23	85	122½	153	—
4800	96½	171	230½	277½	445½	38½	104½	142½	172	261
4850	62	142	201½	246	—	60	126	163½	191½	—
4900	36½	113½	172	215	383½	87½	149	187½	212½	302½
4950	20	92	148½	191	—	123½	178½	214	240	—
5000	10	70½	127½	170	337	166½	210	244	269½	356
5050	4½	54	105	148	—	215	245	275	298½	—

September 11 Total: 10773 Calls: 2470 Puts: 8303 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	*Open*	*High*	*Low*	*Sett*	*Vol*
Long Gilt *Previous open interest 161882*	Sep 97 Dec 97	115-13 114-31	115-19 115-04	115-13 114-27	115-19 115-02	1321 37822
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 254867	Dec 97 Mar 98	101.80 100.79	101.85 100.80	101.52 100.79	101.59 100.75	135976 440
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest 106664	Dec 97 Mar 98	109.25	109.65	109.13	109.43 109.38	46393 0
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Dec 97 Mar 98	126.88 125.93	127.05 126.13	126.83 125.93	127.05 126.12	2809 742
Three Mth Sterling *Previous open interest 674913*	Sep 97 Dec 97 *Mar 98*	92.72 92.63 *92.62*	92.72 92.65 *92.64*	92.70 92.62 *92.60*	92.71 92.64 *92.63*	9996 13119 *13930*
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1663937	Sep 97 Dec 97	96.72 96.52	96.73 96.54	96.71 96.49	96.72 96.51	22581 39786
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest 401319	Sep 97 Dec 97	93.18 93.52	93.21 93.55	93.18 93.49	93.20 93.55	7830 17449
Three Mth Euroyen	Mar 98 Jun 98				99.36 99.26	0 0
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest 179555	Sep 97 Dec 97	98.55 98.23	98.57 98.24	98.52 98.17	98.55 98.21	9224 15514
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest 39906	Sep 97 Dec 97	95.66 95.61	95.66 95.61	95.65 95.58	95.66 95.59	443 930
FTSE 100 Previous open interest 80184	Sep 97 Dec 97	4860.0 4920.0	4885.0 4940.0	4835.0 4898.0	4850.0 4910.0	14757 7046

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 6¼ Week fixed: [illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 7, close 6½.

Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling *CDs*:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.54	n/a	5.57	5.73	5.98
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	*7 day*	*1 mth*	*3 mth*	*6 mth*	*Call*
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	3¼-3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	1¼-1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $320.80-321.10 **Close:** $322.00-322.50 **High:** $322.10-322.60
Low: $320.40-320.90 **AM:** $321.05 **PM:** $321.65

Krugerrand: $321.50-323.50 (£201.00-203.00)

Platinum: $427.00 (£269.01) **Silver:** $4.77 (£2.985) **Palladium:** $191.50 (£120.64)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Sept 11	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2003-3.2165	3.2030-3.2061	1¼-1pr	3½-3¼pr
Brussels	58.620-58.990	58.672-58.789	20-15pr	56-50pr
Copenhagen	10.812-10.878	10.826-10.836	¼-⅛pr	1-½pr
Dublin	1.0536-1.0634	1.0571-1.0594	11-5pr	29-23pr
Frankfurt	2.8400-2.8556	2.8436-2.8466	1-⅞pr	2¼-2⅛pr
Lisbon	288.51-290.02	288.95-289.29	½-⅛pr	1½-1¼pr
Madrid	239.52-240.86	239.52-239.83	41-31pr	127-109pr
Milan	2772.3-2787.9	2774.4-2777.7	12pr-4ds	35-13pr
Montreal	*2.1977-2.2105*	*2.2084-2.2105*	*0.69-0.63*	*1.41-1.33pr*
New York	1.5850-1.5898	1.5876-1.5886	0.20-0.18pr	0.603-0.572pr
Oslo	11.672-11.706	11.692-11.706	¼-⅛pr	1-¾pr
Paris	9.5460-9.6050	9.5564-9.5658	3¼-3pr	9½-9pr
Stockholm	12.324-12.428	12.370-12.386	¼-⅛pr	1-¾pr
Tokyo	189.05-190.34	190.06-190.34	1¼-1pr	3¼-3pr
Vienna	19.979-20.098	20.010-20.033	⅞-⅝pr	2-1½pr
Zurich	2.3381-2.3520	2.3449-2.3476	1¼-1⅛pr	3½-3¼pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3860-1.3879
Austria	12.61-12.62
Belgium (Com)	37.00-37.05
Canada	*1.3900-1.3905*
Denmark	6.8245-6.8265
France	6.0278-6.0298
Germany	1.7915-1.7925
Hong Kong	7.7455-7.7465
Ireland	1.4972-1.4992
Italy	1748.0-1749.0
Japan	119.05-119.15
Malaysia	2.9410-2.9440
Netherlands	2.0176-2.0186
Norway	7.3654-7.3704
Portugal	*181.90-182.10*
Singapore	1.5100-1.5110
Spain	151.11-151.19
Sweden	7.7884-7.7959
Switzerland	1.4754-1.4764

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5885-1.5911
Australia dollar	2.2007-2.3051
Bahrain dinar	0.5915-0.6055
Brazil real*	1.7344-1.7388
China yuan	13.010-13.310
Cyprus pound	0.8305-0.8495
Finland markka	8.4600-8.6010
Greece drachma	443.25-453.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.2972-12.3065
India rupee	57.49-58.79
Indonesia rupiah	*n/a*
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4780-0.4890
Malaysia ringgit	4.6694-4.6771
New Zealand dollar	2.5050-2.5086
Pakistan rupee	62.75 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7150-5.8500
Singapore dollar	2.3974-2.4005
S Africa rand (com)	7.3830-7.5510
U A E dirham	5.7650-5.9010

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,100	Ladbroke	2,100
ASDA Gp	6,400	Land Secs	949
Abbey Ntl	1,700	*Legal & Gn*	*5,600*
Allnce & Leic	591	Lloyds TSB	5,500
Allied Dom	1,700	LucasVarity	3,300
AB Foods	579	*Marks Spr*	2,900
BAA	696	Mercury Ast	209
BAT Inds	3,900	NatWst Bk	4,900
BG	4,300	*Nat Grid*	4,900
BOC	614	Nat Power	1,100
BP	5,800	Next	435
BSkyB	879	*Orange*	*855*
BTR	66,500	P & O	1,800
BT	15,800	Pearson	1,500
Bk of Scot	1,700	PowerGen	988
Barclays	6,700	Prudential	2,200
Bass	1,100	RMC	66
Blue Circle	2,700	Railtrack	344
Boots	843	Rank Gp	13,700
BAe	1,900	Reckitt Col	893
BA	2,200	Reed Intl	2,600
British Land	674	Rentokil	10,900
Brit Steel	1,400	Reuters	2,700
Burmah Cstl	955	Rio Tinto	2,200
Cable Wire	4,300	Rolls Royce	1,600
Cadbury	1,700	Royal & Sun	4,000
Carlton Cms	1,100	Royal Bk Sct	2,400
Centrica	39,400	Safeway	1,400
Cm Union	754	Sainsbury	2,000
Dixons	1,400	Schroders	62
EMI	2,200	*Scot & New*	*639*
Energy Gp	1,300	Scot Power	1,200
Enterpr Oil	1,200	Svrn Trent	560
GKN	1,200	Shell Trans	6,300
GRE	2,000	Siebe	1,300
GUS	1,400	SmKl Bch	8,900
Gen Acc	1,300	Smiths Inds	1,400
Gen Elec	3,400	Std Chartd	6,400
Glaxo Well	7,100	TI Gp	1,700
Granada	1,400	Tate & Lyle	466
Grand Met	910	Tesco	4,100
Guinness	*1,700*	*Thames W*	*142*
HSBC	2,300	Tomkins	9,100
Halifax	3,000	Unilever	2,500
Hanson	1,900	Utd Utilities	205
Hays	205	Utd News	1,400
ICI	890	Vodafone	4,500
Imp Tob	431	Whitbread	157
Kingfisher	783	Wolseley	375
LASMO	486	Zeneca	2,400

WALL STREET

	Sep 11 midday	Sep 10 close
AMP Inc	51⅜	52⅛
AMR Corp	115⅝	113⅛
AT & T	43⅜	42⅝
Abbott Labs	59⅞	59⅛
Advanced Micro	33⅛	32⅝
Aetna Life	100⅛	101⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	55⅝	55⅛
Air Prod & Chem	83⅝	83⅝
AirTouch Comm	35⅛	35⅜
Albertson's	33⅛	33⅛
Alcan Alumnm	34⅛	35
Allied Signal	84⅛	85⅝
Alum Co of Am	80⅝	81⅛
Amerada Hess	59⅛	59⅝
Amer El Power	45	44⅝
Amer Express	78⅛	79
Amer Genl Corp	49⅝	50
Amer Home Pr	72⅝	73⅛
Amer Intl	100⅛	101⅛
Amer Stores	24⅛	23⅝
Amer Standard	41⅛	41⅝
Ameritech	62⅜	62⅝
Amgen	49⅞	49⅝
Amoco	96⅛	96⅛
Andrew Corp	36	36
Anheuser-Busch	42⅛	43⅛
Apple Computer	22⅝	22⅛
Archer Daniels	22⅛	22⅝
Armco	5⅝	5⅝
Armstrng Wrld	66⅝	67⅛
Asarco	29⅝	30⅛
Atl Richfield	80⅛	80⅛
Atmel Corp	37⅝	37
Auto Data Pro	45⅛	45⅝
Avery Dennison	38⅛	38⅝
Avon Products	58⅝	59⅝
Baker Hughes	42⅛	43⅝
Baltim Gas & El	27	27⅛
Banc One	54	54⅝
BankAmerica	71⅛	72
Bank of NY	46⅛	46⅛
Bankers Tr NY	109⅛	109⅝
Barnett Banks	66⅛	66⅝
Bausch & Lomb	40⅛	40⅛
Baxter Intl	52⅛	53⅛
Becton Dicknsn	48	48⅛
Bell Atlantic	77⅛	77⅝
BellSouth	43⅝	44⅛
Black & Decker	37⅛	38⅝
Block (H&R)	39⅝	39⅛
Boeing	52⅝	52⅝
Boise Cascade	38⅛	38⅛
Boston Scien	62⅞	60⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	77⅛	78⅛
Browning Ferris	37⅛	38
Brunswick	31⅝	32⅝
Burlington Nthn	92⅝	92⅝
CMS Energy Corp	36⅛	36⅛
CPC Intl	89⅛	90
CSX	56⅛	57
Campbell Soup	48⅝	49⅛
Carolina Pwr	34⅛	34⅝
Case Corp	65	64⅝
Caterpillar	53⅝	53⅝
Central & SW	20⅝	20⅛
Champion Intl	57⅝	57⅝
Chase Manhat	112⅛	113⅛
Chevron Corp	80⅛	81⅝
Chrysler	36⅛	36⅝
Chubb Corp	68⅛	68⅛
Cigna Corp	189⅛	191⅛
Citicorp	128	129
Clorox	65⅝	65⅝
Coastal Corp	59⅝	59⅛
Coca Cola	57	57⅝
Coca Cola Ent	28⅛	28⅛
Colgate-Palm	62⅛	63⅝
Columbia Gas	66⅛	66⅛
ColumbiaHCA	29	29
Compaq Comp	66	67⅝
Comp Ass Int	64⅝	65⅝
Conagra	66⅛	66⅛
Cons Edison	32⅝	32⅛
Cons Nat Gas	58	58⅝
Cooper Inds	50⅛	50⅝
Corestates	62⅝	63⅛
Corning Inc	47⅛	47⅛
C'wide Credit	34⅛	34⅝
Crestar Finl	44⅛	44⅝
Crown Cork	50⅛	50⅛
Dana Corp	46⅝	47⅝
Dayton Hudson	62⅝	63⅝
Deere	53⅝	53⅝
Delta Air Lines	99⅝	99⅛
Deluxe Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Digital Equip	42⅛	42⅛
Dillard Dept St	42⅛	42⅝
Disney (Walt)	76⅝	77⅝
Dominion Res	36⅛	36⅝
Donelley (RR)	37⅛	38⅛
Dover Corp	67	66⅝
Dow Chemical	87⅛	88⅝
Dow Jones	44⅛	44⅛
Dresser	41⅛	41⅛
Duke Power	49⅛	49⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	27⅝	27⅝
Du Pont	62⅝	63⅝
Eastman Chem	60	60⅝
Eastman Kodak	66⅛	67⅝
Eaton Corp	92⅛	92⅝

	Sep 11 midday	Sep 10 close
Edison Intl	25⅛	25
Elect Data Sys	37⅝	37⅝
Emerson Elec	54⅝	54⅛
Engelhard Corp	21⅛	21⅝
Enron Corp	38⅛	39⅛
Entergy	25⅝	25⅛
Ethyl Corp	8⅝	9
Exxon	62⅝	62⅝
FMC Corp	82⅛	82⅛
FPL Group	47⅛	47⅛
Federal Express	68	68⅝
Fifth Third Banc	62⅝	63
Fleet Finl Grp	66⅛	66⅝
Fluor Corp	54⅛	55⅛
Ford Motor	45⅛	45⅛
Fort James	40⅛	41
Fortune Brands	34⅝	34⅛
Franklin Res	79⅛	78⅝
GTE Corp	44⅛	44⅛
Gannett	97⅛	98⅝
Gap Inc Del	51⅛	50⅛
Gen Dynamics	81⅛	82⅝
Gen Electric	65⅛	65⅝
Gen Mills	65⅛	65⅝
Gen Motors	67⅛	67⅝
Gen Reinsurance	198⅝	200⅛
Gen Signal	38⅝	38⅛
Genuine Parts	30⅝	30⅝
Georgia Pac	91⅛	91⅝
Gillette	78⅛	79
Glaxo Wellc ADR	38⅝	39⅝
Goodrich (BF)	43⅛	43⅛
Goodyear Tire	62⅛	62⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	25⅛	25⅝
Great Lakes	45⅝	45⅛
Halliburton	48⅝	48⅛
Harcourt General	49⅝	49⅝
Heinz (HJ)	43⅛	43⅛
Hercules	50⅝	50⅝
Hershey Foods	53⅛	53⅝
Hewlett Packard	66⅛	66⅝
Hilton Hotels	30⅛	31⅝
Home Depot	49⅛	49⅝
Homestake Mng	13⅝	13⅛
Honeywell	70⅛	70
Household Intl	112⅝	113⅝
Houston Inds	20⅝	20⅝
Humana	24⅝	24⅛
ITT Corp	62⅛	62⅛
Ikon Office	24⅛	24⅛
Illinois Tool	48⅛	49⅛
Illinova	22⅝	22⅝
INCO	26⅝	26⅛
Ingersoll Rand	39⅝	39⅝
Inland Steel	22⅝	22⅝
Intel Corp	94⅝	95⅛
IBM	97⅝	97⅝
Intl Flav & Fr	50⅛	51⅛
Intl Paper	52⅝	53⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	55⅛	56⅝
Kellogg	44⅝	44⅝
Kerr-McGee	62⅝	62⅝
Kimberly-Clark	45⅛	45⅝
Kmart	14⅛	15⅝
Knight-Ridder	53⅝	52⅝
Lilly (Eli)	104⅛	105⅝
Limited Inc	24⅛	24⅛
Lincoln Nat	68⅛	68⅝
Litton	53⅛	53⅝
Liz Claiborne	49⅝	49⅝
Lockheed Martin	104⅛	105⅛
Louisiana Pac	22⅛	22⅛
MCI Comm	27⅛	27⅝
Manpower Inc	42⅛	42⅛
Marriott Intl	67⅛	67⅝
Marsh & McLnn	72⅛	72⅛
Masco Corp	45	45⅝
May Dept St	53⅝	54⅛
Maytag Corp	29⅛	29⅝
McDonalds	45⅝	46⅛
McGraw Hill	65⅛	65⅛
Mead Corp	70⅝	70⅛
Medtronic	92⅛	93⅝
Mellon Bk	52⅝	52⅝
Merck Inc	92⅛	92⅛
Mercury Fin	1⅝	1⅝
Merrill Lynch	63⅝	64⅛
Microsoft	136	135⅛
Minnesota Mine	89⅛	90⅝
Mirage Resorts	27⅛	28
Mobil Corp	75⅛	76⅝
Monsanto	42⅛	43
Morgan (JP)	110⅝	111⅛
Motorola Inc	74⅝	74⅛
Mylan Labs	22⅛	22⅝
Natl Semi	39⅝	39⅝
Natl Service Ind	42⅛	43⅛
Navistar Int	27⅛	27⅛
NY Times A	49⅝	49⅛
Newmont Mng	40⅝	40⅛
Nike B	52⅛	53⅛
NL Industries	15⅝	15⅝
Nordstrom	61⅛	61⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	96⅛	97⅛
Nthn State Pwr	48⅛	49
Norwest Corp	59⅝	60⅛
Occidental Pet	24⅝	24⅝
Ohio Edison	22⅛	22⅝
Oracle	37⅝	37⅝
Oryx Energy Co	25⅛	26⅛

	Sep 11 midday	Sep 10 close
Owens Corning	41	41⅝
PPG Industries	62⅛	63⅝
PMI Group	58⅛	58⅝
PNC Bank	45⅛	45⅛
PP&L Res	22⅛	22⅝
Paccar Inc	51⅛	52
Pacificorp	21⅝	21⅝
Pac Enterprises	32⅛	33⅛
Pall Corp	21⅛	22⅛
Parker Hannifin	41⅝	42⅛
Peco Energy	23⅝	23⅝
Penney (JC)	60⅝	60⅝
Pennzoil	77⅝	77⅝
Pepsico	37⅝	37⅛
Pfizer	55⅝	56⅛
Pharm & Upjhn	34⅝	34⅝
Phelps Dodge	77⅝	77⅝
Philip Morris	43⅛	43⅝
Phillips Pet	49⅛	49⅝
Pitney Bowes	77⅝	78
Polaroid	57⅛	57⅛
Procter & Gmbl	128⅝	129⅝
Providian	36⅝	37⅛
Pub Serv E & G	24⅛	25⅛
Quaker Oats	48⅝	48⅝
Ralston Purina	90⅛	90⅝
Raychem Corp	92⅛	93⅛
Raytheon	58⅛	58⅛
Reebok Intl	44⅝	45
ReliaStar Fin	38⅝	37⅝
Reynolds Metals	67⅝	68⅛
Rockwell Intl	59⅛	60⅝
Rohm & Haas	95⅛	96⅛
Royal Dutch	51⅛	51⅛
Rubbermaid	24⅝	24⅛
SBC Comms	56⅝	56⅝
Safeco Corp	50⅛	50⅝
St Paul's Cos	76⅝	76⅛
Salomon Inc	61⅛	62⅝
Sara Lee Corp	41⅛	41⅝
Schering Plough	48⅛	48⅝
Schlumberger	77⅝	78⅛
Seagram	34⅛	34⅛
Sears Roebuck	56⅛	56⅛
Shell Trans	40⅛	41⅝
Sherwin Wllms	28⅝	28⅝
Silicon Graphics	27⅝	28⅝
Snap-On-Tools	42⅝	42⅝
Southern Co	21⅛	21⅝
Southtrust	47⅛	47⅛
Sprint Corp	45⅝	45⅝
Stanley Works	42⅛	42⅝
Sun Company	41	41⅛
Sun Microsys	49⅝	49⅛
Suntrust	64⅝	65
Supervalu	39⅝	39⅝
Synovus Fin	25⅝	25
Sysco Corp	34⅝	34⅝
TRW Inc	54⅛	56⅝
TIG Hldgs	32⅛	32⅛
Tandy Corp	66⅛	66⅝
Temple Inland	62⅛	62⅛
Tenet Healthcare	27⅝	28⅛
Tenneco	48⅛	49⅝
Texaco	119⅛	120⅛
Texas Inst	125	123⅛
Texas Utilities	35⅝	35⅝
Textron	63⅛	63⅝
Thermo Elect	39⅝	40
Time Warner	53⅝	53⅝
Times-Mirror A	52⅛	52⅛
Timken	38⅛	38⅛
Torchmark	38⅛	38⅝
Toys R Us	35⅛	35⅛
Transamerica	97⅛	97⅝
Travelers	65⅝	66⅛
Tribune	49⅛	49⅝
UST Inc	30⅝	30⅝
US Bancorp	88⅛	90
UAL	82⅛	82
Uslife	61⅛	61⅛
US Inds	37⅛	37⅛
US West Comm	35⅛	36⅛
US West Media	20⅝	20⅝
USAirways Group	37⅝	37⅝
USX Marathon	33⅝	34⅝
Unicom	24	24⅝
Unilever NV	206⅛	209⅝
Union Camp	58⅝	59⅝
Union Carbide	52⅝	52⅝
Union Pacific	63⅝	62⅝
Unisys Corp	11⅝	11⅛
USF&G Corp	22⅛	22⅛
United Tech	77⅛	77⅝
Unocal Corp	40⅝	40⅝
VF Corp	90⅝	90⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	37⅛	37⅝
Warner-Lambert	129⅝	128⅝
Waste Mngmt	33⅝	33⅝
Wells Fargo	258⅛	261⅛
Westinghouse El	25⅛	25⅝
Weyerhaeuser	55⅛	56⅝
Whirlpool	54⅛	55⅝
Whitman	24⅝	25
Winn Dixie	33⅝	34⅛
Witco Corp	40⅛	40⅛
Woolworth	23⅛	23⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	72⅝	72⅛
Xerox	77	78⅝
Xilinx Inc	45⅛	45⅝

ECONOMIC VIEW ANATOLE KALETSKY

Look to an old theory to explain our golden age

Questions about a 'new paradigm' should be directed to Keynes

Last week I explained some of the cyclical reasons why the British and American economies both seem so healthy at present. But the fact that both countries are now in what Americans call the "sweet spot" of their economic cycles may not be sufficient to explain the happy combination of low inflation and full employment that they now enjoy. It will certainly cease to be sufficient if this period of prosperity and low inflation continues much longer, as most of the financial portents suggest that it will.

Economists and investors have therefore started to wonder whether some totally new kind of analysis is needed to explain what is going on. The financial markets especially are buzzing with talk of a "new paradigm", to borrow again from the American parlance.

When seasoned observers of human affairs hear financiers enthuse about a new paradigm or a new era, they instinctively reach for their revolvers, or at least get a tight grip on their wallets. In this case, however, such cynicism seems only half-justified.

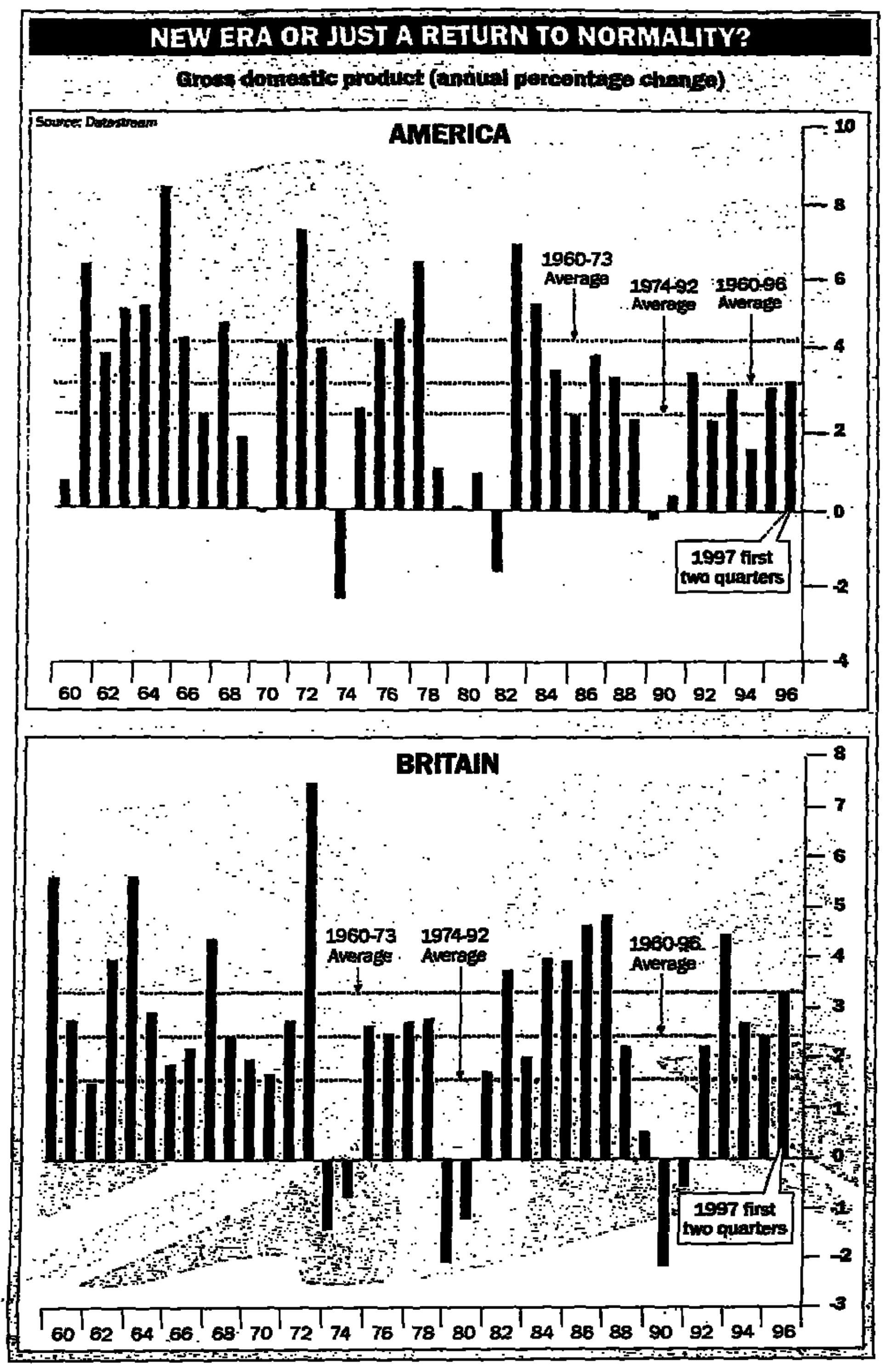
The first point to note is that new paradigm theories can be divided into two quite separate kinds. One type asserts that the long-term sustainable rate of growth in the American (or British or world) economy has increased because of globalisation, technology or some other exogenous boon. The other type claims nothing about the trend rate of growth, but merely says that economies can now operate at lower levels of unemployment than in the 1970s and 1980s without inflation getting out of control.

The first type of theory — which claims a permanent acceleration in the trend rate of growth — is more exciting, since it implies a permanently faster growth in everyone's standard of living (and also incidentally a permanently higher level of corporate profit growth and therefore of a permanent bull market in shares). The second theory is much more modest. It suggests only that full employment can now be attained without triggering inflation. This limited version of the new paradigm means only a one-off gain to the economy as the jobless are put back to work. Once full employment is reached, as it arguably now has been in America (although clearly not in Britain or Europe) it is back to business as usual: long-run growth of about 2 per cent annually in real incomes, profits and investment — and no particular reason to assume accelerating productivity or a continuing stock market boom. To judge by the recent falls in stock markets around the world, investors are just beginning to understand the difference between these two versions of the new paradigm. And the markets are probably right. There is plenty of evidence for the more limited version, which argues that full employment can be maintained without inflation, but there is little reason to believe that the new era of full employment will also be a period of ever-rising profits and accelerating productivity growth.

To explain a permanent acceleration in productivity requires all kinds of bold assumptions about the benefits of new technology and globalisation. But untested theories about a new golden age are not required to explain why full employment has returned. It is quite sufficient to revive some of the most familiar notions of modern economics, namely modern Keynesian theory, also known as the neoclassical synthesis, which was taught in most universities and schools in Britain, America and Japan until the 1980s, but (significantly) never caught on in Germany.

NEW ERA OR JUST A RETURN TO NORMALITY?

Gross domestic product (annual percentage change)



This theory taught that a decent approximation to the admirable goal of permanent full employment could be achieved if the government and central bank actively managed demand by manipulating interest rates, exchange rates, taxes and public spending. No country could hope to fine-tune the economy so exactly that the business cycle would be eliminated completely, but the timely and judicious use of monetary and fiscal instruments to manage demand could prevent the long depressions and wild swings between boom and bust that were widely assumed to be inescapable features of capitalism before Keynes came along.

The relevance of this brief historical digression should be clear to anyone who follows the financial news. Hardly a week goes by without the Reuters screens being set ablaze by some new announcement about "the timely and judicious use of fiscal and monetary instruments to manage demand" in Washington, London, Frankfurt or Tokyo. (The Bundesbank still formally denies that it is in the demand management business, but policymakers should be judged by actions, not words.) Instead of seeking a new paradigm, therefore, why not revert to the old paradigm of pragmatic Keynesian economics to explain the present state of affairs?

A Keynesian who fell asleep in the late 1960s and woke today would not be surprised by the present state of the world economy. In America, where the Federal Reserve Board has been operating under a dual mandate to preserve price stability and maximise employment, these objectives have broadly been achieved. In Britain, similar policies were adopted after Black Wednesday and are broadly accepted even by the newly independent Bank of England.

Even the Bundesbank has, since last year, been stimulating demand by cutting interest rates and facilitating a weaker mark. The result has been predictable — a sharp increase in German exports, leading to higher incomes and (through the so-called multiplier) to signs of recovery in domestic demand. Only in Japan, have aggressive demand management policies yielded disappointing results so far — and there the economy was recovering strongly until the Government crushed it with a badly timed tax increase that would have sent Keynes spinning in his grave.

Our Keynesian Rip Van Winkle would therefore see no need for new paradigms in the world economy today. Yet he would be puzzled. The puzzle would not be why demand management was doing so well in America and Britain today. Instead he would ask why Keynesian policy did so badly from the late 1960s onwards that it had to be abandoned, leaving the world to suffer from mass unemployment for 20 years.

This is the question that ought to be the focus of the "new paradigm" debate. Instead of seeking the magic elixir that might explain the miracle of non-inflationary expansion — be it technology, globalisation or even price stability itself — it would be more useful to focus on the pathologies that made full employment unattainable in the previous two decades. For a Briton, the most important of these pathologies was the neanderthal resistance of trade union leaders to modern working practices and adequate levels of profit. In other countries there were other problems — ranging from excessive taxation and public spending to oppressive regulation and social unrest.

What all these pathologies had in common was that they grew out of the prosperity of the 1950s and 1960s. They were by-products of the collapse of social discipline that followed the longest period of full employment and prosperity in history. When wealth creation seemed to become an automatic process, people naturally grew less interested in how further wealth could be created than how it might be shared out. A long era of full employment is bound to encourage such a breakdown of discipline in any democratic market economy, as Michael Kalecki, the great Polish neo-Marxist economist, argued in his prophetic critique of Keynesian policies in 1943.

Instead of viewing the present as some kind of aberration, we should perhaps consider the 1970s and 1980s to have been the aberration. All that has happened in the 1990s is that the world economy has moved cautiously back towards a normal steady state of moderate prosperity and full employment, with America leading, Britain behind it and Europe bringing up the rear.

If that sounds too much like wishful thinking, watch the stock markets slide as investors realise that what lies ahead is neither boom nor recession, but a long spell of moderate non-inflationary growth when the struggle over the income distribution between wages and profits will gradually resume.

Energis flotation puts the seal on spirited recovery

Eric Reguly on how new life was breathed into the Grid's telecoms arm

Energis, the telecoms network owned by the National Grid, has come back from the dead and is headed for a stock market flotation that could make it one of the largest quoted players in the sector. The initial public offering is expected this year and may value the company at £1 billion or more.

Energis's flotation comes less than four years after its launch. The company began life in a blaze of publicity in 1993 and promptly disappeared from view. In the past two years it has received virtually no press coverage and the average consumer has no idea what it does.

Its business concept was brilliant. The problem was the National Grid, whose financial forecasts for Energis could only be described as overly ambitious. It was also clear that the Grid, whose business is running a monopoly electricity transmission network, had little idea how to operate a telecoms company in a highly competitive industry.

The Grid built Europe's most advanced telecoms network in 19 months by slinging high-capacity fibre-optic cables underneath electricity pylons. The 4,700-km network cost only £337 million because no digging was required. As a result it could offer services to business customers at cut-rate prices. The Grid's masters sat back and waited for the cables to hum with activity. They did not.

Energis emerged as just another wholesaler when the country was awash with telecoms capacity. A few high-profile customers were recruited, notably the BBC, which used Energis to send radio and TV signals from studios to the main transmission towers, but they were not enough to fill even a small fraction of the network's capacity.

As losses piled up, the criticism began. The launch of Energis coincided with the "fat cat" saga, in which the Grid directors played a central role. David Jefferies, the Grid chairman, and his colleagues were accused of wasting money on a business they did not understand.

In an effort to restore confidence, the Grid began hunting for an Energis investor or buyer. The Grid believed a partner would help to shore up Energis's finances, provide customers and perhaps make it part of a pan-European or even global network. AT&T, America's largest long-distance operator, came close to a deal but the price was too high.

Energis's fortunes began to change early last year when Mike Grabiner, the director fo BT's European operations, became chief executive. He came to the conclusion that Energis could never make it as a seller of wholesale telecoms capacity; BT, although more expensive, would always have the advantage.

Under Grabiner, Energis has expanded its services. It is installing a virtual private network for voice communications at Boots and is following up with a data transmission system to connect the chemist's 1,300 shops. The system allows the head office to monitor sales and adjust orders instantly. Similar systems are being built for Eurostar and Virgin Atlantic booking offices.

In the past year or so, demand for "broadband" capacity has exploded with the rapid rise of Internet services, toll-free 0800 numbers, and high-speed data and video transmission. Increasingly, Energis's network is being called upon to transmit these services. The company now has some 400 customers and expects to report earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation in the current financial year. In the year to March, revenues more than doubled to £97 million. Analysts forecast 25 per cent annual growth, leading to estimated revenues of £1.2 billion within ten years.

The Grid is no longer looking for a buyer for Energis, though a trade sale will not be ruled out until the flotation is officially launched. Under pressure from shareholders, the Grid wants to ensure that Energis's value is reflected in its share price. Floating up to 49 per cent of Energis seems the best way to accomplish this. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the Grid's financial adviser, hopes to float Energis by the end of the year.

The company still faces enormous challenges. Lack of direct access to most of its customers is a shortcoming that may turn into an enormous liability. Unless it develops a local access network, it will have to keep paying competitors to transmit signals to and from its own network. In the information age, direct access to the customer is considered the route to riches.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Bank's practice may be the reason for late payment

From Mr D. Bonfield

Sir, Your supplement on prompt payment (September 9) suggests slow payers are choosing this route at the expense of their suppliers. Perhaps the reasons for late payments should have been explored.

I put forward the case of my small British manufacturing company as an example. After an excellent relationship with a major bank (Barclays) for many years, a new young and inexperienced bank manager replaced our existing manager, who was promoted. In what I understand is common practice under these circumstances, he aimed to clear out any lending that was not fully secured and, as a result, our overdraft was removed. Severe cashflow problems resulted, leading to late payment to many of our suppliers. Our only other option was to close down the business, but fortunately after over nine months of considerable stress, we have pulled through and saved both the company and the jobs of all our employees.

I would fully support moves to make illegal "repayable on demand" terms that are currently imposed on UK overdrafts, to reduce the power of the banks over the survival of small businesses.

Yours faithfully,
D. BONFIELD,
PO Box 2329,
Santa Rosa,
CA 95409, USA.

Ring changes

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

I HEAR of an unexpected parting of the ways. For four years Sir Tim Bell has been the public mouthpiece of Lord Lloyd-Webber, whose operettas have never been to my taste but who seemed a decent enough chap when his company, the Really Useful Group, was on the stock market back in the 1980s.

Now Lloyd-Webber has hired an extraordinary troika to replace him next month. The three are Peter Brown, former chief executive of Apple, as in the Beatles rather than computers, silly, and in charge of Lloyd-Webber's publicity in the US for years; Sir Nicholas Lloyd, former editor of *The Express*; and Howell James, John Major's political secretary before the election.

Lloyd-Webber tells me: "We wouldn't have moved away from Lowe Bell (Sir Tim's company) were it not for one huge thing. Peter Brown is my oldest friend in the business. When he decided he wanted to set up in London I couldn't really not go with him."

No suggestion of penny-pinching: the new team will be paid the same as Lowe Bell, he says. But while the composer may be cementing an old relationship with Brown, who is godfather to his son, another one may be frayed by the move. Sir Nicholas's wife, Eve, is herself godmother to Sir Tim's son.

"How on earth did the press get a whiff of the story?"

□ *BTR is selling Silvertown, as part of disposals announced yesterday. This was the business after which the conglomerate's, sorry, the engineer's, head office, is named, so this will no longer do. BTR has spent months pushing its corporate message to anyone who will listen. Wait for the inevitable renaming as Focus For Growth House.*

Gold touch

ON the same subject, those disposals offer a golden opportunity for Simon Robertson to justify his enormous salary at Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank he joined this summer. Or is it an unenviable conflict of interest? Robertson is one of the new non-executives at BTR announced less than a fortnight ago.

Normally, when a company flags such sales, a bank is already in place to field calls from interested parties. Strangely, BTR's Ian Strachan would not say yesterday who was taking on the job. I am sure the normal beauty parades have been carried out and the work has been awarded on the most competitive terms. But it would be interesting to see how much goes Goldman Sachs's way.

Free bank

SIR BRUCE PATTULLO of the Bank of Scotland may not favour devolution, but separatists were at work there yesterday. A London customer, account in credit, tried to withdraw cash; the machine swallowed her card. Had the annexation of Sassenach funds in Scottish banks begun? I phoned, and the bank blamed "technical problems" with some accounts. Behind, I could just make out a Scottish voice crying "Freedom!".

Bad omen

DENTON HALL, the City lawyer, has announced the winner of its name-the-super-SIB competition. The City's new regulator is working under the deeply dull acronym of NewRo. The lawyers, in an unusual rush of generosity, offered a jeroboam of champagne to anyone to think of something more exciting. Alas, they have chosen the even duller "Board of Financial Supervision", submitted by Anita Bhaskar of Daiwa Europe.

My own suggestion came nowhere. The new body will take six months of consultation to set up, another six months to put together and six years before it gets around to doing anything useful; I suggested a rather neat 666 logo and the working name Damian. For some reason they refused to take me seriously.

MARTIN WALLER

Sir Bruce Pattullo might have a few separatists on his Bank of Scotland staff

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Equities suffer further sell-offs

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on *the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend.* Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
493	407½	Allied Domecq	460½	-3	5.9	13.8
626	385	Bulmer (HP)	400	+5	4.5	11.2
75½	40½	Burn Stewart	46½	+½	9.1	11.6
1040	965	Glenmorangie A	975		1.7	24.1
631	425½	Grand Met	573½	-4	3.3	18.4
627	424	Guinness	555½	-3	3.6	15.8
380	297½	Highland Distl	297½	-5	3.5	13.9
336	220	Matthew Clark	220½	-2	13.6	6.6
107½	52½	Morrison Wt	60½		6.4	14.9
2009½	1462½	SA Breweries	1784½	-34½	2.2	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1521½	918½	ABN-AMRO	1200½	-29½	2.7	16.7
971	710	Abbey Natl	849	-8½	4.1	13.9
662½	532½	Alliance & Leic	645½	-2½	3.2	15.1
563	368½	Allied Irish	533½	-7	3.4	15.1
488½	353½	Aus New Z	464½	-3½	4.1	..
4671½	2875	Bank America	4506½	-121½		
452	291½	Bank Scotland	429	+2	2.4	13.0
1476½	979½	Barclays	1421	-10	2.9	13.5
764	517½	Bk of Ireland	725½	-6	2.7	16.0
8828½	6006½	Citicorp	8059½	-225		
1759½	1258½	Commerzbk	1703½	+6½	2.8	
865½	559½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	716½	-21½	0.6	
4321	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3768½	-40½	1.7	
1300	753½	Espirito Santo	1287½	+3½	2.9	
947½	594½	Fuji Bank Y	763½	-34½	0.6	
2297½	1227½	HSBC	1912	-69½	3.0	15.5
2268½	1241	HSBC HK	1829½	-66½	3.1	14.8
783	696½	Halifax	704½	+3½	2.6	23.7
610	483½	Irish Perm	580		2.7	16.0
783½	524	Lloyds TSB	712½	-13	2.5	20.8
912½	660½	Nat Aust Bk	899½	-1	4.5	12.4
896½	663½	Nat West	834	+10	4.5	13.2
855	508	Ryl Bk Scot	606	-5	4.0	13.0
1093½	681	Stand Chart	787½	-11½	2.5	13.7
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		2.0	
397½	315½	Westpac	367½	-3½	4.1	
373½	284	Woolwich	315	-3½	3.7	18.7

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	717½	Bass	831½	-½	3.8	15.6
68½	43½	Bk for the Bdr	55		4.1	11.6
205	143½	Burtonwood Brw	152½	-1	4.9	14.2
155½	121½	City Centre Rest	145		2.2	22.5
744½	575½	Compass Gp	582½	-11	1.9	21.4
305	250	Eldridge P A	295	-1½	2.4	15.7
357½	221	Enterprise Inns	356½	+1	3.4	18.1
485	412	Fuller Sm 'A'	417½		3.0	14.5
596	477½	Greenalls Gp	469	-4½	4.2	11.7
770	642	Greene King	711½		2.9	19.5
237½	152½	Grosvenor Inns	155		5.3	
296	218½	Groupe Chez Ger	266½		1.4	26.2
298½	261	Hardy Hansn	267½		5.1	11.9
2850	2675	Hall J	2687½		2.7	15.8
78	63	Inn Business	67	-½	3.0	10.7

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
200½	162½	Cal Group	189½	+1	2.6	20.4
139½	117½	Carrodale	133½		3.6	7.7
100	61½	Charles Sidney	69½	+½	5.8	9.1
59½	46½	Cook (DC)	47		6.6	6.1
121	90½	Dag Motors	97½	..	9.9	7.2
134½	102½	Dennans Bt	102½	.	3.4	9.4
400	217	Diploma	237½		7.6	9.0
494	387½	Electrocomponents	472	-9½	2.0	26.8
236½	117½	Eurodis Elec	138½	..	4.7	26.6
97½	76½	European Mot	90	.	7.8	8.0
300	213	Evans Halshaw	290	-5	7.2	
53½	39½	Fife Indmar	47½		9.2	7.6
397½	312½	Finelist Grp	325½	-1	3.0	
34½	24½	Gardiner	25½		4.7	9.4
79½	57½	Glenchewton	68		2.9	11.1
110	82½	Gowrings	99½		3.9	16.5
15½	11	HR Owen	13½	-¼	6.1	12.2
103	20½	Hamlet	22½	...	..	21
272½	232½	Harris (Philip)	266½		4.7	10.3
330	284½	Headlam	322½		2.4	19.4
165	145	Holders Techl	165		4.9	13.5
240½	149½	GA Intl	151½	...	2.5	11.8
308½	240½	Inchcape	269½	-1½	4.9	16.5
72	49½	Jacks (Wm)	64½	.	4.4	10.0
311	214½	Kwik-Fit	290½	-4	2.4	20.9
459½	316½	Lex Service	452½	-4	4.5	13.6
132	100	Lookers	100½		10.0	7.2
9	5½	Middlesex	7½	..	1.7	13.2
41½	10½	Midstates	15	-½	4.0	3.1
472	180	Norbain	231		4.6	7.8
166½	114½	Northamber	137½		1.3	8.2
353½	305½	Partco	318½		3.2	16.8
394½	254½	Pendragon	269½		4.7	11.9
223½	172½	Perry Gp	178½		6.6	7.7
751	448	Premier Farnell	523½	-8	2.9	19.4
152½	122½	Quicks Group	139½	+2	6.7	8.8
357	307½	REA	325	.	1.5	40.1
2½	1½	Reece	1½			50.2
38	12½	Ronson	18½	.	1.7	
4	1½	Ross Gp	2½			
109½	78½	Ryland	92		5.6	8.6
38	24	SEP Intl	26½	.	7.2	12.4
95½	25	Salfire	36½		5.7	
415½	283½	Time Products	295		5.1	11.3
347	189	Trust Motor Grp	189	-11	7.5	8.2
338	228	UMECO	328½	-1½	2.1	21.4
89½	59	United Oseas Gp	87½	-½		19.0
352½	267½	Vardy (Reg)	282½		3.3	13.5
685	498½	WF Elect	601½	-½	3.2	20.3
41	25½	Wilshaw	29	.	3.7	8.2
172½	111½	Wyko	153	-1	2.5	
155½	119½	Young (H)	155		3.5	13.2

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
482½	327½	Antofagasta	400		1.6	21.1
328	232	Ascot Hldgs	245	-2½	2.7	40.9
917	762	Broken Hill	782	-13½	3.0	18.3
280	180½	BTR	234	+15	4.8	8.0
601½	462	BAT	517	-6	6.3	11.1
60½	50½	Brierley Inv	51½	-½	9.3	8.4
266	182	Cookson	251½	-½	4.4	15.5
229½	197½	Cosalt	207½	+8	6.2	9.0
402½	255½	DCC	395½	-4½	2.2	14.7
312½	243½	Gallaher	273	-1	8.8	10.4

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
737½	595	Spirax-Sarco	665	-11	2.7	17.1
303½	239½	Sterling Indt	261½	-1	4.8	12.7
619	450	TI	600½	-10	2.9	19.1
120½	101½	Tinsley (E)	110½		6.9	10.4
120½	92½	TransTec	103½	+1	2.8	14.7
206½	144½	Triplex Lloyd	183½		4.8	13.9
222½	150½	Unicorn Intl	222½	.	3.5	..
77½	48½	Utd Inds	61	-1	4.9	17.6
273½	169½	Vickers	193½	-11½	4.7	11.9
10½	8½	Villiers Grp	9½	.	.	
712½	505	Vitec	608½	-1½	2.6	11.5
862	742	Vosper Thornyt	819	-2	4.0	13.2
350	213½	Wagon Indl	244		6.1	10.7
287	203½	Weir	269	-1½	3.9	13.0
259½	201½	Wellington Hdg	201½	-1	5.0	11.9
33	23	Wellman	28	-½	8.3	8.9
61½	45½	Wescol	56	+½	2.5	18.6
683	525	Whatman	680	+5	2.4	20.5
65½	30½	Widney	34½		12.7	...

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
140	97	Adwest	123½	+3½	8.3	9.5
197	173½	Airflow Stream	173½		5.8	11.0
757	565	Avon Rubber	600	-3½	4.1	12.4
285	227½	Bostrom	284	...	3.2	14.1
109	98	Britax	105½		4.2	14.5
808	657½	First Tech	806½	.	1.7	21.2
1308½	907	GKN	1290½	+9½	2.5	
4228½	3237½	General Mtr	4228½	+18½	3.0	
583½	399	Hardys	400	.	4.9	9.5
2072	1540½	Honda Motor	1958½	-70½	0.4	
435½	312½	Laird	421½	-½	3.7	11.4
238	180	LucasVarity	211½	-2	3.2	21.3
178½	131	Mayflower	167½	-4½	1.8	23.6
172½	127½	Sylone	145½	+1	5.5	10.6

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
276	86½	English Natl	240	-3	0.2	
160½	144½	Eng & Scot	153	-1½	2.5	39.5
406½	372	European Asset	390	-5½	1.3	
113½	82½	Fidelity Asian Val	90½	-4½		
275½	216½	Fidelity Euro Val	267½	-2½	0.2	..
50	36	Fidelity Jap Val	37½	-2½		
136½	113½	Fidelity Spec Val	125	-½		
226½	205½	Finsbury 'A'	226½		2.2	61.7
214	162½	Five Ar Cable	204	-1½	1.2	
31½	21	Five Ar Wts	23	...	...	
538	375½	Fleming Amer	520	-11½	0.7	.
106½	66	Fleming Chinese	91½	-1½	0.7	
40	24	Fleming Ch Wts	31½	-1	.	
375½	280½	Fleming Claver	373	-2	2.2	48.5
502	381	Fleming Cont	465	-6½	1.1	
158	113	Fleming Em Mkts	141½	-4½	0.4	
269½	227½	Fleming Entp	265½	-2	2.5	
325	253½	Fleming F East	270½	-9½	1.5	
423½	386	Fleming Fledg	401½	-1½	0.3	
110½	103	Fleming Ing Inc	108½		10.9	11.2
211	117	Fleming Ing Cap	209	-1		
63	45½	Fleming Indian	54½			
22	13½	Fleming In Wts	14½	-½	...	...
214½	167½	Fleming Japan	175½	-6	.	
384½	335½	Fleming Merc	381		3.0	34.7
114½	92½	Fleming Nat Res	98½	-½	0.7	.
409	321½	Fleming Overs	384½	-3½	1.5	79.1
160½	137½	Fleming Smllr Co	148		3.8	31.2
181	147½	Foreign & Col	171½	-1½	1.7	59.0
99½	90½	F&C Inc Gwth	96	-2	4.7	26.7
130½	85	F&C Emg Mkts	118½	-5½		
158½	123	F&C Enterprise	158½		1.9	53.0
371	296½	F&C Eurotst	354½	-5	0.5	
169	133½	F&C German	155	-3	0.5	
176	137½	F&C Pacific	148½	-4½	1.6	70.8
149½	131½	F&C PEP	143½		3.7	33.1
185½	166½	F&C Smaller	175½	-½	1.8	51.4
155½	122½	F&C US Smlr	151½	-1½		
62½	52	Framlin Inc	52	-1	12.4	9.9
92½	60½	Framlin Cap	90½	-2		
105½	40½	Fram Dual Cp	104	-1		

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
126	78½	Pacific Assets	82½	-3½	0.6	
86½	65½	Perpetual Euro	78½	-1½	0.7	
120½	98	Perp Inc Gth	114½	-1½	4.0	
56	39½	Perpetual Jap	42	-2½		
366½	292½	Perpt Uk Sm Co	306½		3.8	27.4
£156½	£120½	Personal Assets	£155½		1.9	51.2
134½	113½	Prolific Inc	122½	-1½	4.2	28.1
279½	229	RIT Cap Ptnr	275½	-2	0.8	
569½	475½	Robeco	563½	+2½	2.0	...
577½	497	Rolinco	571	+2½	1.0	
108½	70½	Schrod Asia Pac	78½	-3½	0.3	
96½	77½	Schrod Emg Cnl	81½	-5		
144½	117½	Schrod Inc Gwth	138½	-1	4.1	26.3
75½	51	Schrod Jap Gwth	66½	-2½	.	
512½	410	Schrod Korea	449½	-½		
31	19½	Schrod Split Cap	30½	-½	.	
115½	102½	Schrod Split Inc	110		9.5	13.5
151½	142½	Schrod Split Zero	151½			
148½	126½	Schrod UK Gwth	136	-3	3.0	36.8
201½	165½	Schrod Vent Intl	167	...		
331½	273½	Scot	320½	-3	2.4	52.0
193½	169½	Scot American	190½	-½	3.5	38.2
311½	197½	Scot Asian	227½	-10	.	..
124½	98½	Scot Eastern	118½	-1½	2.0	46.8
344½	275½	Scot Mtge	330½	-4½	1.9	48.5
102	93	Scot Natl Tst	98½	-½	10.5	11.6
127½	117½	Scot Value	123	-½	2.0	60.8
2261½	1960	Second Allnce	2157	-15½	2.8	42.5
120½	95½	Secs Tst of Scot	113½	-½	4.1	31.5
156½	133½	Shires Smllr	152	-½	5.0	24.4
138½	121½	Smaller Coc	129½	-1	3.2	37.9
385	344½	St Andrew Inv	364½		3.3	37.8
451	377½	Temple Bar	435	-5½	4.7	24.8
87½	72½	Throgmorton	80½	-½	3.6	30.3
169½	131	Tpltn Emg Mkt	148½	-5½	0.9	
222½	175½	TR City Of Lon	220	-1½	3.6	
183	139	TR Euro Growth	173	-6	0.7	
124	89½	TR Pacific	95½	-3½	0.3	
42½	34½	TR Property	40½	-½	3.2	28.3
244½	214½	TR Smlr Cos	228	-1	2.2	54.9
432	323	TR Tech Inv	430½	-1	2.9	34.4

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
391½	300½	Gearhouse Group	383½	+1	2.0	19.1
36	24½	Goodhead	35	+4	1.4	
319½	243½	Grampian	313½		2.9	21.6
345	254	HIT Entert▲	315		0.2	46.8
415½	277½	HTV Group	414		1.3	49.8
287½	207½	Haynes Pub	242½	.	5.5	
22½	6½	Highbury Hse	10			
230	184	Hodder H'line	185½		4.4	14.0
285	243	Home Countc	254		2.9	24.4
394½	295	IBC	391½	+4	3.1	13.5
26½	18½	Incepta	20			21.5
407½	297½	Independent	387½		2.2	25.4
145	95	Infoeurope	126½		4.0	10.1
229½	172½	Johnston Press	222½	-2½	1.5	20.4
45	25	Lopex	35½		3.0	9.4
247½	140	MAID	193	-6½		
327½	272½	Marden	273½		1.6	18.9
41½	26½	Mediakey	34½		4.1	11.6
1265	950	Metal Bulletin	1110		2.4	31.7
203½	129½	Midland Ind	200		2.8	30.9
226½	182½	Mirror Gp	207½	-1	2.7	14.8
705	561½	More Grp	650		2.8	16.5
338½	264	News Corp	290	-2	0.5	.
288	216½	News Corp Pref	243½	-3	1.4	
47½	5½	On Demand Inf	6	.		
37½	16½	Osprey Comms	17			23.5
797½	657½	Pearson	757½	+½	3.1	52.6
83	29½	Phonelink	30	.		...
845	750	Portsmth Sund	820		2.2	19.5
258½	145	Quarto	147½		6.9	6.5
637	509½	Reed Intl	558	-14	3.1	19.8
756½	556½	Reuters	665		2.3	22.1
710	542½	Scot Med	634	+½	3.9	15.8
413½	338	Scot Radio	342		3.0	16.5
62½	38½	Shandwick	42½	-½	4.2	7.7
26	11	Sleepy Kids	14½	-½	0.7	17.4
521	390	Southnews	420		2.3	16.9
30½	15½	Sterling Pub	17½			5.3
60½	46½	Taylor Nelson	60	-½	1.9	20.3
250	173	Television Cor	218½		1.9	16.3
1622½	1158½	Thomson Corp	1471	-22½	3.1	30.9

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165½	118	JF Fledg Jap	125½	-3½		
110½	92½	Jupiter Ex Inc	107½		9.2	10.6
14½	3½	Jupiter Ex IncWt	10½		..	
86½	76½	Jupiter Gra Capt	86		11.3	10.6
39	31	Jupiter Grd Pkt	39	+½	.	.
139½	120½	Jupiter Intl Grn	131½		3.7	
388	293	Klnwt Chrl	365½	-4½	2.0	54.7
118½	98½	Klnwt E Mkt	108½	-1½	..	
170½	153½	Klnwt End	170	-½		..
103	74	Klnwt H Inc	101		13.4	
365	261	Klnwt O'seas	350½	-3	1.4	67.9
188½	161½	Klnwt Smlr	167½		2.7	44.4
387	264½	Korea—Euro	385	-3½	0.4	.
173½	98½	Latin American	145½	-3½		.

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
412½	333	Millennium & Copt	400	+1	2.1	16.6
1½	1	Millwall Hldgs▲	1½			
144½	113½	Newcastle Utd	125	-3½	1.6	
280	191½	Northern	270½	+1	2.4	24.1
188½	117½	Prism Leisure	170½		3.3	8.5
38	26½	Queensborough	26½	-½	1.4	10.4
18½	12½	Queens Moat	12½			3.6
456½	325½	Rank Grp	349½	-1	6.3	21.3
53½	40½	Ryan Hotels (E)	51½		4.3	10.8
1600	1360	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1370	-7½	1.6	
111½	39½	Sheffield United	59½			
280½	184½	Sinclair (Wm)	244½	-3	4.2	14.0
153½	47	Southampton	76½	-2½	1.7	
110½	95½	Stakis	98	-1	2.9	15.7

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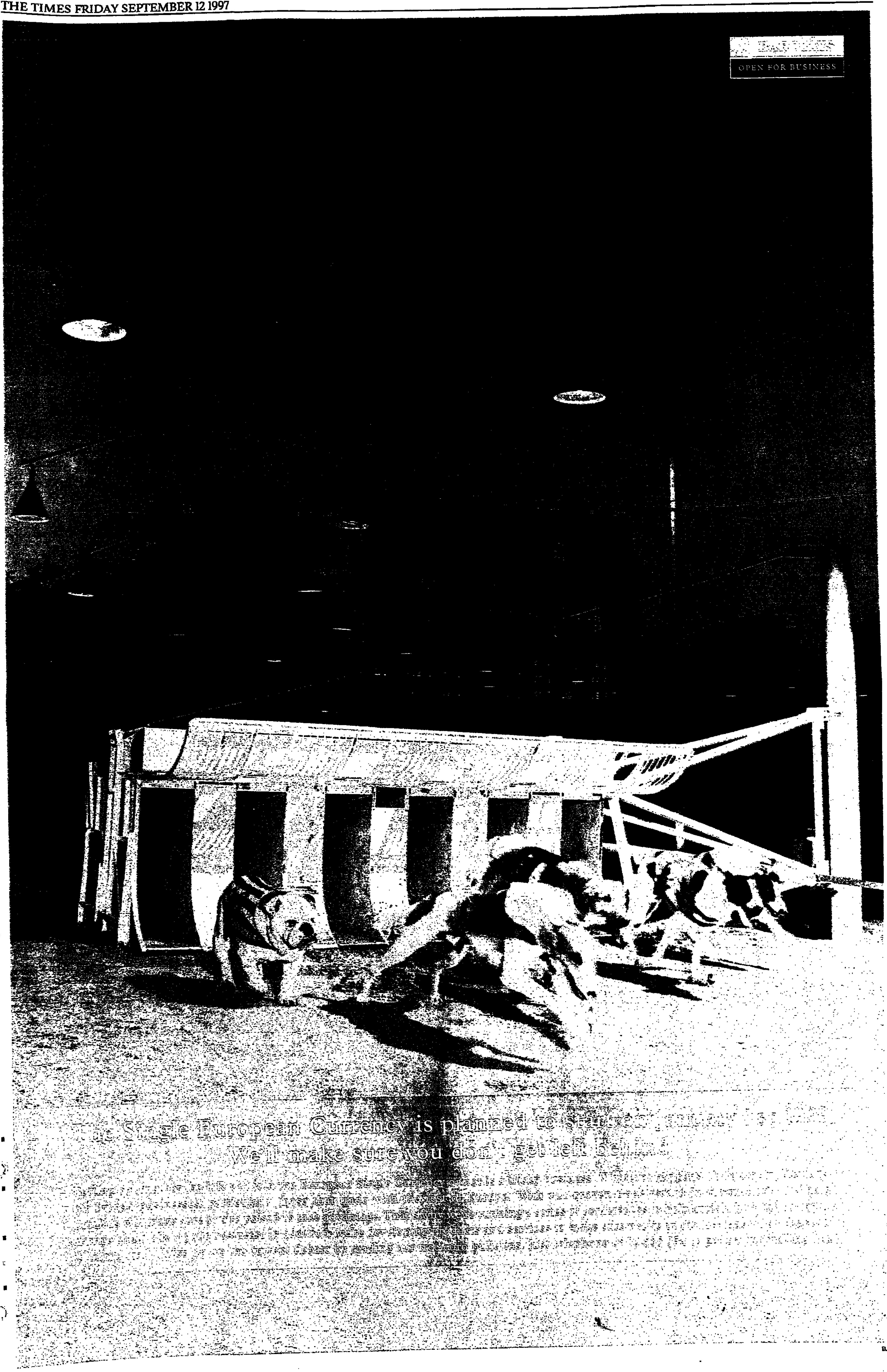
1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1136½	902½	Law Debenture	1100½	-8	3.1	33.6
119½	103½	Lic Oil Opp	114½	-½		.
133	109½	Lloyds Sm Cap	122½			
25½	17½	Lloyds Sm Div	21½		23.6	5.4
158½	129	Lloyds Sm Ptg	144		3.6	.
172½	158½	Lon St Lawrence	170½		4.7	27.4
325½	292½	Lowland	309	-1	4.6	24.0
740	635	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	737½			
85	64½	M&G 2nd Dual In	66			2.1
66	56	M&G Inc Geared	62	-½	11.5	11.1

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
320	249½	Stanley Leisure	294		1.7	24.0
11	4½	Tandem	6½			
346	346	Tanjong	346		1.2	26.0
210	120½	Thistle Hotels	121	-1	3.9	11.1
142	91	Tottenhm Hot	94½		1.0	16.2
121	93½	Toy Options	117½		3.9	8.8
280½	189	VCI	190		5.1	9.6
127½	94	Vardon	108½	-½	2.6	12.8
411	316½	Wembley	318½	-3	1.2	74.3
103½	89½	Zetters Gp	100	+1½	13.2	6.8

BRITISH FUNDS

هكذا من الأصل



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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	802.10	853.30	-10.40	2.34
General Inc	653.70	695.50	-8.40	2.34
UK Growth Acc	555.30	590.80	-7.00	2.19
UK Growth Inc	355.00	377.70	-4.50	2.19
Higher Inc Acc #	992.00	1055.40	-7.70	4.50
Higher Inc Inc #	520.40	553.70	-4.00	4.50
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	224.30	236.90	+0.30	5.47
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	93.43	98.68	+0.10	5.47
Nth America	441.40	469.60	-7.10	
Europe	440.20	468.30	-6.30	0.04
Smr Excell	110.90	118.00	-1.40	2.34
Brit Fndmtls Acc	136.80	145.20	-0.60	4.37
Brit Fndmtls Inc	87.57	93.16	-0.41	4.37
Global Opps	116.70	124.20	-1.90	
Balanced Acc	73.55	78.25	-0.76	2.15
Balanced Inc	67.99	72.33	-0.69	2.15
Japan Acc	41.65	44.31	-0.79	
Pac Basin Acc	384.90	409.50	-10.20	1.20
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	135.90	144.20†	+0.10	6.32
High Inc Equity	211.80	226.50	-2.30	4.45
Worldwide Bond	271.40	287.90†	+0.90	3.44
American Growth	529.80	565.60	-6.30	0.30
Asian Pacific	332.10	356.20	-4.90	0.39
Assets & Earnings	330.90	353.90	-5.70	2.64
Euro Capital Acc	338.40	355.00	-3.37	0.78
Extra Inc	43.66	48.45†	-0.09	8.46
General	304.50	323.90†	-4.90	3.03
Global Opps	83.10	88.40†	-1.14	0.36
Japan	98.54	105.40	-1.10	
Managed Inc	51.65	54.95†	-0.21	4.09
Mastertrust	190.70	204.00	-2.70	1.09
US Emerging Cos	226.70	242.50	-0.60	
Ethical	86.48	92.00	-1.38	1.88
International	155.00	164.90	-1.90	0.53
Dividend & Growth	78.11	83.10	-0.78	4.20
Global Grth & Sec	77.80	83.08	-0.01	2.43
Latin America	98.23	104.50†	-1.50	0.64
Capital Reserve	150.80	150.80	-0.10	4.64
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
NAP UK Growth	106.80	113.60†	-1.40	2.11
Equity Income #	148.30	157.70†	-1.30	3.19
Extra Income #	283.60	301.60†	-2.10	6.05
Smaller Cos	105.90	112.60	-0.40	1.77
International	130.90	139.30	-2.10	1.31
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	79.37	82.54	-1.62	
Emerging Mkts	78.61	81.88	-1.37	0.05
European	172.30	179.21	-1.90	
Extra Income #	54.18	57.02†	-0.51	5.23
Far East Emg Eco	115.81	121.47	-1.83	0.70
Fixed Interest #	26.92	27.99†	-0.01	8.39
Fund Inv Tst #	165.88	174.14	-0.64	9.83
Japan	175.53	182.37†	-2.10	
Latin American	81.32	85.45†	-1.48	
Pacific	76.53	80.33	-1.27	0.31
Property	84.69	88.92	-0.04	1.49
UK Emerging Cos	68.46	73.97	-0.13	0.78
UK Growth	65.29	68.00	-0.89	1.25
Aber World Port #	91.18	95.87	-1.11	2.50
Ethical	84.19	87.56	-0.45	1.08
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.29	50.28†		7.03
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2446.00	2552.00	+11.00	.
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Russell Property #	108.50	115.40	.	4.92
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	103.73	110.06†	-0.88	1.90
Income Builder Inc	91.85	97.71	-0.58	3.59
For Allied Dunbar see Threadneedle				
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cohcut Dist Pens	134.20	139.40		.
Foundtn Pen'l Pens	79.73	82.83		.
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	463.20	492.80†		
Bond	124.30	130.60		6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	114.20	121.50	-0.40	1.91
Cons & Con #	66.77	71.03†	-0.46	5.48
Europe	356.90	379.10	-5.60	
Euro Smlr Cos	133.70	142.30	-0.60	0.31
Income Grwth	400.00	425.50†	-1.90	4.02
Japan	321.40	340.60	-5.20	
Latin American	120.80	128.50	-2.00	
Pacific	120.80	128.50	-2.00	0.54
UK Smllr Cos	61.86	65.81	-0.07	1.29
Japan Fd	578.70	597.40	-6.00	
Mngd Fd	238.00	253.20	-2.70	2.47
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	439.10	464.40	-5.50	0.76
Capital Grwth	158.10	167.20	-3.20	2.50
Worldw Opps	248.30	262.70	-1.10	0.83
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Grwth & Inc Inc	501.90	533.90	-8.00	1.57
European Bd Inc	98.52	102.10	+0.10	5.98

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Extra Income Acc	32.07	33.75	+0.01	6.62
European Grwth	79.64	84.28	-1.34	0.17
Evergreen	35.34	37.79	-0.30	
General Equity	125.80	132.77	-1.38	2.42
Japan Growth	41.50	44.15	-0.77	..
Pedigree Grwth	74.66	79.00	-0.91	1.83
Ped Sm Cos Inc	40.75	43.12	.	1.42
-do- Accum	43.64	46.18		1.42
Retirement Inc #	32.04	34.08	-0.22	5.32
Special Sits	52.77	56.74	-0.31	2.82
UK & Overseas	70.34	74.43	-1.15	0.48
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	78.77	82.05†	-0.52	3.77
Capital	96.52	100.54†	-0.85	2.19
High Income	54.53	58.80†	+0.01	6.51
Top 50	68.84	71.70†	-0.74	2.25
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	214.55	223.51	-1.09	4.32
Long Gilt	47.85	49.82	+0.04	5.75
Monthly Inc Plus	54.64	56.92	+0.07	7.87
Preference Share	52.39	54.58	+0.02	7.14
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	155.24	161.73	-0.70	6.54
Managed Fund	85.56	89.12	-1.02	2.54
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	52.17	54.35	-0.13	1.56
-do- Accum	62.30	64.90	-0.17	1.56
UK & General	117.90	122.83	-1.69	2.29
-do- Accum	156.31	162.84	-2.22	2.29
UK Growth	230.60	240.23	-2.81	1.64
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	258.34	269.13	-4.41	0.50
Far Eastern Grth	130.54	135.99	-2.72	0.21
Global Bond	75.61	78.77	..	6.52
Japan Growth	106.17	110.61	-1.52	..
North Amer Grth	303.78	316.47	-4.55	..
Oriental Growth	82.06	85.49	-2.03	0.57
Worldwide Growth	82.98	86.45	-1.38	0.30
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.38	93.38	+0.01	6.03
Homeowner Fund	101.08	107.54	-1.92	2.01
Quilter Fund	171.88	182.86†	-2.90	1.72
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 6966				
Consistent UT	39.28	41.98†	-0.28	2.95
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	196.40	208.90	-2.50	1.71
Income	82.06	87.30†	-0.67	3.94
European	91.67	97.52	-1.47	0.14
Recovery	187.10	199.00	+0.20	2.07
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1149.00	1188.30	.	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	83.29	88.40†	-1.64	0.36
Fellowship Tst	115.60	122.90	-0.50	1.11
Income #	323.00	343.60	-3.20	4.00
-do- Accum #	878.60	934.60	-8.60	4.00
Smaller Cos	230.30	245.00	-0.50	0.75
-do- Accum	287.90	306.20	-0.50	0.75
Gilt Portfolio	111.20	118.20†	-1.30	1.34
High Inc Port #	94.38	100.40†	-1.00	4.16
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1936.60	1958.30	+12.00	0.53
UK Small Cos	2261.20	2348.90	+7.80	2.92
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	243.70	251.20	.	..
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	201.60	214.40	-3.60	1.51
UK High Inc Inc	216.10	229.80	-3.10	3.10
-do- Accum	301.10	320.30	-4.40	3.10
UK Fxd & F I Inc	62.67	66.54	+0.02	5.56
Environmtl Opps	120.70	128.40	-1.50	0.78
UK Smlr Cos	73.01	77.66†	-0.17	0.87
Extra Income Inc	52.40	55.72†	-0.01	6.06
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 080 626				
Convertibles #	24.01	25.51†	-0.11	5.49
Enterprise	119.50	126.70	-0.10	1.97
Equity Income #	164.10	174.40†	-1.80	3.67
European	74.48	78.89	-1.06	.
Financial	67.96	72.21†	-0.60	1.38
Growth & Inc #	334.90	355.80†	-3.50	2.46
High Dist #	209.80	222.90	-2.10	3.81
International	459.50	488.20	-8.20	0.20
Intl Cap Inc	124.80	133.20	-1.10	2.03
Latin American	42.25	44.90†	-1.00	..
Mgd Grth Port	97.42	101.80	..	4.91
Pacific	86.02	91.40	-2.26	..
Pref High Inc	24.33	25.85	-0.02	6.96
Tokyo	187.70	199.30†	-3.40	.
UK Smaller Cos	246.10	261.50	-0.70	1.15
Japan Sm Cos	310.90	329.00	-2.70	
Nth Amer	546.80	578.20	-9.80	0.51
UK Inc & Gth	302.10	322.00	-3.10	2.30
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BPI Director Digs	124.29	132.37	+0.60	0.97
Growth Acc	310.60	330.85	-22.31	0.21
Income	617.06	659.11†	+13.48	5.94

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Can the fossils fight off the shark?

RICHARD MORRISON

The clash of tanker-sized egos jostling for newsprint. Froth and loathing at the Groucho. Limp wrists raised in anger. Handbags at 20 paces. Yes, it's Controversy Time again in the arts. Which usually means that somebody needs to shift a lot of tickets. Welcome to *Sensation*, the lovely new show of guts, gore and genitalia at the Royal Academy.

The exhibition isn't launched until next week, but you may feel that you know its contents intimately already. It opens the 229-year-old RA's doors to that endearing clan of sheep-picklin', intestine-gazin', corpse-fondlin', hype-spinnin' folk known as Young British Artists. And the press is picnicking handsomely on the "outrage" steaming from the Very Old British Artists who, for some reason, see little artistic merit in pickled sharks, severed limbs, enlarged autopsy photographs of bullet wounds, and inflatable dolls with improbably displaced private parts.

For myself, I can take it or leave it. To misquote the late Peter Cook, why should I go to the RA to experience mutilation, morbidity, perversion and bestiality? I can get all that at home. And I also find it hard to take seriously an art debate conducted between dozens of figures whose combined talent would almost, but not quite, amount to a quarter-power Bacon or a one-per-cent Picasso.

Nevertheless a Great Arts Controversy is always fun, because all the highfalutin moral and cultural arguments can usually be boiled down to squabbles about money or status. And *Sensation* is a fascinating example, because it brings into conflict three groups with entirely different motives.

In the Red-in-Tooth-and-Claw Corner are the Young Brits, the "Hirsts and worse". Their motive is obvious enough: to shock their way to fame and fortune. I have no objection to that, though I wish they would stop telling us how brave they are for "looking death in the face" in their art. What on earth has the whole of Britain been doing for the past fortnight? And I also wish they would stop sniggering at their prime benefactor, Charles Saatchi, in "off the record" conversations with journalists. If you must slag off your patron, do it like a man: to his face, while ripping up his latest cheque.

Then, in the Arsenic-and-Old-Lace Corner, are the crusty old fops who form a sizeable chunk of the RA membership. It isn't hard to guess their motive either: pure jealousy. They hate the Young Brits because the kids are getting fame and commissions for some pretty dubious art. Perhaps we should sympathise. After all, a portrait of Myra Hindley done with children's handprints does not exactly lift the heart, for all its alleged metaphorical power.

But the RA crusties forfeited any right to sympathy long ago. For decades they let the Summer Exhibition dwindle into laughable mediocrity. Last December their finances were revealed to be in disarray. Modest reforms of their rules (mostly laid down by George III) have been resisted furiously. In short, they have painted themselves into a still-life called *Irrelevance, With Fossils*.

And in the third corner? There stand the RA professionals, notably its secretary David Gordon and its exhibitions secretary Norman Rosenthal. Somehow they have to balance the books and drag the old place into the 21st century. To do the former, they need exhibitions that will have the punters queueing all the way to Piccadilly Circus. Unfortunately, the top crowd-pullers — the continent-hopping Impressionist blockbusters — cost millions, and the RA is strapped both for cash and big sponsors.

But on the RA's own doorstep is art that is relatively cheap, headline-grabbing and bound to attract thousands of curious spectators. Enter pickled shark, enter severed limbs. And if *Sensation* also causes a flurry of resignations among the old crusties, well, that's a bonus for Rosenthal and Gordon. They will be well on the way to dragging the place into the 21st century as well. You have to admit: as art it might be no great shakes, but as a battle manoeuvre *Sensation* could well be sensational.

Meanwhile, sit back and enjoy what promises to be a cracking row between new Labour's cultural mandarins and the Arts Council of England. The People's Government, itching to put its stamp on arts policy, is getting increasingly irritated by the gentle waft of inertia emanating from the Arts Council. And little wonder. Four months have elapsed since Mary Allen's notorious "transfer" from being the Arts Council's secretary-general to running its biggest client, the Royal Opera House. Yet there is still no successor in sight.

Indeed, so inepily was the job advertised (briefly in mid-August), and consequently so modest the quality of applicant attracted, that the whole process has been started again. Meanwhile, Lord Gowrie, the Arts Council's suave chairman, swans round the country on an eccentric tour reading Basil Bunting poetry to harpsichord accompaniment — a tour subsidised by an Arts Council grant.

Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, is mild-mannered to a fault, but even he must be miffed by this rudderless drift. Who is keeping a close eye on all those multi-million-pound lottery projects, for instance, if the Arts Council has nobody at the top to accept responsibility?

I fear that it is time for the noble Gowrie to find another congenial quango to ease him gently towards his free bus pass. If the Government is really committed to taking the arts to the people, the Arts Council needs a leadership that believes in the idea. It also needs an influx of top people untainted by the murky machinations of the past year — and it needs them now. If Chris Smith hasn't got the stomach to tackle that, he might as well put in for his transfer to the Ministry of Paper-Clips before it is forced on him.

DONALD COOPER

Troll with a soul: Antony Sher (centre) gives "an heroically anti-heroic performance" as Cyrano de Bergerac

The nose has it

THEATRE

Cyrano de Bergerac

Swan, Stratford

The Cyranos we have seen in recent years — Keith Michell, Derek Jacobi, Robert Lindsay — have been fine, upstanding fellows with the ill-luck to have been born with over-prominent hooters. Antony Sher is not like that at all. Even if Apollo had donated him his nose at birth, he would still be far from having that Olympian look.

He is a small, squat creature with a bony red beak and black frizz sprouting from the top of his head and most parts of his face. And throughout Gregory Doran's production he wears the same tattered black jacket, with the hole in the elbow showing what may be fur beneath. At times his Cyrano looks like a throwback to the stage of evolution when our ancestors had to decide either to be birds or to start swinging from the trees.

Tom Mannion, who played Rostand's hero for the Scots company Communicado a few years ago, had a rough look too. But he took the logical next step, which was to underplay Cyrano's romantic yearnings. Sher does the opposite. He emphasises them, adding hints of an inner fragility. The result is a more paradoxical, more complete character: a troll with soul.

Doran's production runs over three hours, but is not overloaded with scenic effects, and does not seem slow or fussy. On the contrary, his cast kept me rooted to the familiar old tale of the proboscisally challenged poet and soldier who self-denyingly woos and wins his own best beloved for a verbally challenged rival. The admirable Alexandra Gilbreath adds a surprising amount of sly humour to the wide-eyed rapture of the beauteous Roxane. As the handsome Christian, Raymond Coulthard comes across as a gangling Sloane Ranger, as inept at managing his hat as coping with words.

As for Cyrano's comrades-in-arms, they are a loud, crude crowd who take pride in running amok amid the pots and pans of the pastry shop run by Geoffrey Freshwater's amiable Ragueneau. They call themselves Gascons but might almost be a load of Gazzas. And there are moments when only Sher's quick wit and way with language differentiates his Cyrano from them. He is one of the lads.

But what Sher suggests, uniquely in my experience, is that this is the expression of insecurity. He is lonely, bashful, nervous with women. Indeed, there is something unformed, even childish about the accomplished swordsman and writer. You sense his fear when he wrongly gets the idea that his boyhood playmate, Roxane, may actually fancy him. You can see and hear his relief when he is asked personally to fight 100 men before their meeting. That's a cinch beside embracing her.

Does Sher push the reading too far? One would say so if he were not also capable of growling with a formidable rage and, more importantly, injecting a genuine intensity of longing into the love lyrics Cyrano dispatches to Roxane's balcony from the shadows below. Indeed, so much does he put into the role that sweat streams from his face, threatening to detach his nose and send it floating across the stage like an upturned dinghy. Altogether, an heroically anti-heroic performance.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Rain didn't stop play, or your reviews

Hundreds of youngsters turned into *Times* critics at *Wet Wet Wet*, the Junior Prom held earlier this week

THE children who attended last Monday's Junior Prom, *Wet Wet Wet*, at the Albert Hall were invited by *The Times* to become music critics for the day. The response was overwhelming: hundreds of reviews reached us within 48 hours, all brimming with enthusiasm and great fun to read. Clearly the future of arts journalism is rosy.

Our thanks go to all the teachers and parents who kept the fax wires humming. But chiefly, thanks to the pupils who responded so vividly. Choosing the best reviews was very hard; in the end we selected three that we felt conveyed the most about the concert, irrespective of the writer's age.

So congratulations to Faith Locker-Marsh of Winchester House School, Brackley; Christopher Bradish of the Bulmershe School, Reading; and Lucy Simms of Badminton Junior School, Bristol. To their schools go bundles of compact discs and concert tickets. Here are the winning reviews:

The title on the programme said *Wet Wet Wet*. "Great," I thought, "perhaps this won't be boring ater all. Marti Pellow will be there."

Wrong! Tony Robinson was there, though, presenting the programme. And Ronald Corp, the conductor, was certainly not wet. He was jolly and got very involved in the music.

The *Thunder and Lightning Polka* had to be my favourite, with the large drum thundering around the Albert Hall and my spine. *I'll sing you a song of the fish of the sea* was wonderful. By rubbing the tops of glasses a musical effect made a marvellous background to the piece.

It was a pity we were tucked away where we could not hear to their best effect all the pieces. However, it was clever how they found so many modern water themes to mix with the older pieces. *Ol' Man River* stood happily with *Jaws*.

At the end we sang *Rule, Britannia* and *Pomp and Circumstance*, which was still in my head as we passed all the flowers at Kensington Palace for Princess Diana. It seemed as if the flowers and the music went together.

FAITH LOCKER-MARSH (10)

Tony Robinson stepped on to a huge stage, jumping around with his arms aloft. The Albert Hall erupted with the sound of 6,000 screaming children, ranging from 4 to 14 years of age. I looked down from the balcony and saw a sea of colours from all the uniforms.

Johann Strauss's *The Blue Danube* was a piece that I recognised. I loved the way it transformed from the beautiful sound of the harp to the bellow of the drum. But *The Skye Boat Song* was probably my favourite, because of the sound of the orchestra and the choir mixing together. It reminded me of my grandma singing me to sleep when I was little.

One of the audience's favourites was *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Paul Dukas, which featured in the film *Fantasia*. Robinson read the script from *Fantasia* over the music. I closed my eyes and found that I could imagine every word.

The last few songs, with *Rule, Britannia* and *Land of Hope and Glory*, were something for which nobody could prepare themselves. The atmosphere was electric: jumpers and blazers being thrown, not to mention paper aeroplanes and song sheets. Even the musicians were really enjoying themselves. I hope to be back next year.

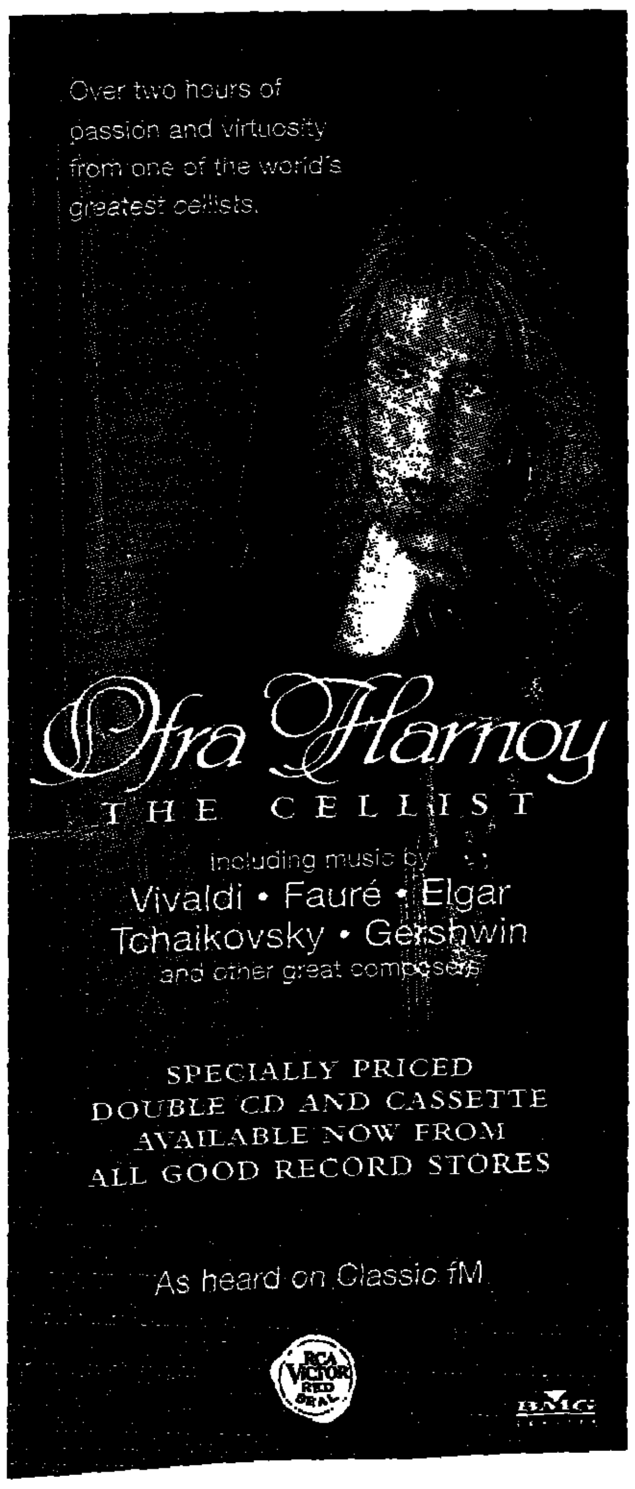
CHRISTOPHER BRADISH (12)

Monday was a wonderfully sunny day and I felt superb. It had been three hours from Bristol to London, and the birds had finished my lunch in Kensington. It was 15 minutes to the Albert Hall. As I walked in I was amazed. In front of me was the most magnificent building I'd ever seen.

Tony Robinson was full of jokes and got the audience to do the most outrageous actions. Ever tried swimming down a sewage pipe? Robert Poulton, a baritone, had a magnificent voice that echoed round the hall. We all sang *Rule Britannia* so loudly, and everyone was throwing paper aeroplanes. Hilarious!

The orchestra wore different coloured T-shirts so you knew which family they were in. The hall was dark red with gold trimmings. I was sitting right up close to the stage so I had a perfect view. The percussionists seemed to have the most fun, bashing drums and bells, and there was a wonderful glass harmonica which gave off an eerie sound. Perfect for a song called *Aquarium*. It was a most fantastic day.

LUCY SIMMS (10)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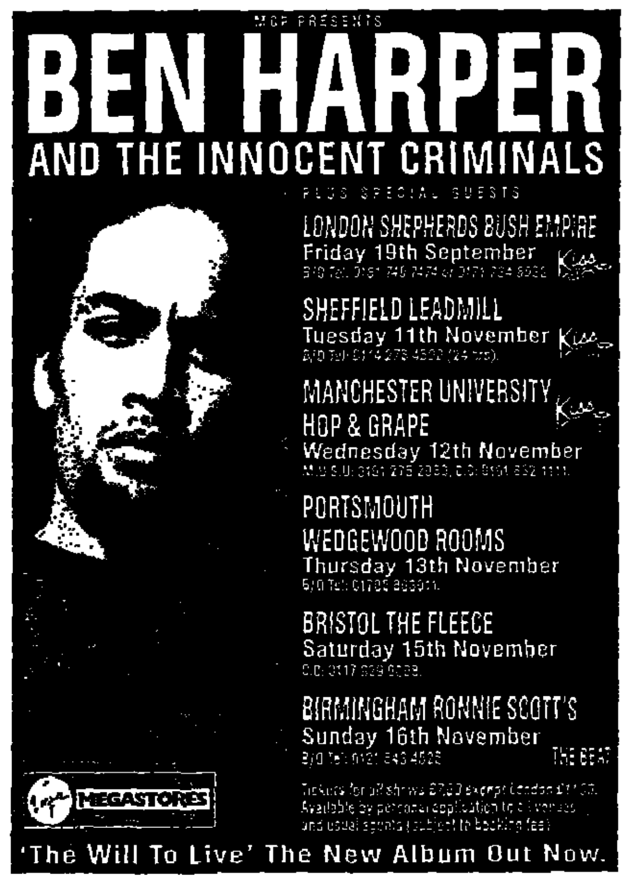
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WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

LONDON

BBC PROMS: Due to the sudden death of Sir Georg Solti last week, tonight's concert will be both a memorial to Diana, Princess of Wales and a tribute to the life and work of Sir Georg. Sir Colin Davis now takes the baton to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra, the London Symphony Chorus and the London Voices in the planned programme of Verdi's *Requiem*. The Last Night of the Proms tomorrow contains the usual mix of serious sounds and exuberant celebration. Andrew Davis leads the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a programme which includes a UK premiere by Judith Weir, and concludes with *Rule, Britannia!* and *Jerusalem*.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm Ⓢ

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE: Trevor Nunn directs Ian McKellen as the spa doctor pitting himself against his community to expose a local scandal. Only the third London production this century for Ibsen's explosive play.
National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). In preview from tonight, 7.15pm. Opens *September 19, 7pm*. In rep Ⓢ

GIULIO CESARE: The Royal Opera opens its first peripatetic season with Lindsay Posner's new production of Handel's dramatically compelling opera. Ivor Bolton conducts, with Amanda Roocroft in the title role. During the company's four-week stint here a further two new productions will be performed: Rameau's *Platée* and Britten's *Turn of the Screw*.
Barbican, *Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891)*. Tomorrow, 6.30pm Ⓢ

WIGMORE WEEKEND: The Philharmonia Quartet Berlin returns to the Wigmore Hall tonight (7.30pm) after a ten-year absence. On the programme are works by Brahms, Webern and Schubert. On Sunday morning (11.30am) there is Schumann and Brahms from the Takács Piano Trio, while in the evening (7pm) the renowned guitarist John Mills performs works by Vivaldi, Handel, Schubert, Reich, et al.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: Although the play **Talent**, which opened here last night, is written by Victoria Wood, she is, in fact, not appearing in it in person as stated yesterday. Instead the lead role is taken by Caroline O'Connor. Played in tandem with Richard Harris's comedy, **Is It Something I Said?**
Haymarket, Wote St, (01256 465565). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 3pm and Wed (Sept 24 only), 10.30am. Ⓢ

Petr Altrichter conducts the RLPO in Liverpool

CARDIFF: Start of the Welsh National Opera's autumn season with a new production of Beethoven's only opera, **Fidelio**. Suzanne Murphy returns to the WNO to sing the role of Leonore, with Adrian Thompson making his WNO debut as the unjustly imprisoned Florestan. Carlo Rizzi conducts.
New Theatre, Park Place (01222 878889). Tonight, 7.15pm Ⓢ

LEEDS: Philip Prowse's acclaimed 1986 production of **Aida** opens Opera North's autumn season tomorrow night. Dame Josephine Barstow heads the cast as the eponymous heroine with Sally Burgess in the role of Amneris, Aida's gaoler and rival in love. Conductor is Guiliano Carella.
Grand Theatre, 46 New Briggate, Leeds (0113-245 9351/440971). Tomorrow, Mon and Fri, 7.15pm Ⓢ

LIVERPOOL: The first concert of the season for the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and its new conductor, Petr Altrichter, is a performance of Haydn's magnificent choral work, the *Creation*. The orchestra is joined by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir with the soprano Geraldine McGreevy, tenor Neil Archer and bass Michael George.
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, (0151-709 3789). Tomorrow, 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Anthony d'Offay: Reinhard Mucha (0171-499 4100) . . . **Barbican:** Don McCullin: Sleeping with Ghosts (0171-638 8891) . . . **Catto:** Annette Kane (0171-435 6660) . . . **National:** Seurat and the Bathers (0171-747 2885)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ ART: Henry Goodman, Roger Allam and Stanley Townsend in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

◩ *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*: Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alasdair Harvey as the leads, with support from Derek Griffiths, Norman Rossington and others.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm

☐ THE CENSOR: Alastair Galbraith, Alison Newman and Jan Pearson in Anthony Neilson's strong study of a deeply anxious film censor and his murky longings. Admirably staged.
Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (Ambassadors), West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Opens Sept 8, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 4pm

☐ *CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING*: First big London revival for Arnold Wesker's 1962 play about class discontent and unthinking obedience in the armed forces. With Julian Glover and Rupert Penry-Jones. Directed by Howard Davies, who might make the unlikely folksong scene work.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm; mat tomorrow, 2.15pm. In rep

☐ DISCO PIGS: Enda Walsh's award-winning, *Cork-set play where the* inseparable Pig and Runt use a private language, part baby-talk, part dub poetry, to cope with life.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 5050). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until September 27.

☐ DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?: The Right Size (Sean Foley and Hamish McColl) follow their excellent *Stop Calling Me Vernon* with this new comic show. The characters are accidentally locked in a bathroom, and all their escape attempts are thwarted. Josef Houben directs.
Lyric Studio, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4.30pm.

☐ *FAMILY CIRCLES*: *Early* Ayckbourn, fiendishly ingenious, where three women switch partners for each act, though it doesn't help them much. A sell-out last winter and making a welcome return.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs (Sep 4), 2.30pm, and Sat, 4pm. Until September 27

☐ HURLYBURLY: West End transfer for the first hit from Peter Hall's Old Vic *company. David Rabe's savagely funny* play about Californian men behaving very badly indeed. Wilson Milam directs an excellent cast led by Rupert Graves, Jenny Seagrove, Andy Serkis and David Tennant.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5105). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

☐ *LIFE SUPPORT*: Alan Bates subtly moving in Simon Gray's play about remorse for marital treachery.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ PYGMALION: Amusing, unshowy revival with Roy Marsden, Michael Elphick and newcomer Carli Morris.
Albery, *St Martin's Lane*, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm.

☐ SKYLIGHT: Bill Nighy and Stella Gonet in David Hare's witty and cogent play showing two contemporary social moralities at odds. Richard Eyre directs.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ ***Buddy***: *Strand (0171-930 8800)* . . . ◩ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) . . . ◩ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . . . ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) . . . ◩ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . . ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where *indicated with the symbol* ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **AIR FORCE ONE** (15): President Harrison Ford gets hijacked. Preposterous, old-fashioned fun, with Gary Oldman and Glenn Close. Director, Wolfgang Petersen.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **ONE EIGHT SEVEN** (15): Meek teacher versus sociopathic pupils. Over-excited drama, with Samuel L. Jackson. Director, Kevin Reynolds.
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

THE WATERMELON WOMEN: Frisky tale of an aspiring black film-maker, written by, directed by, and starring, Cheryl Dunye.
ICA Ⓢ (0171-930 3647)

CURRENT

◆ **AUSTIN POWERS: INTERNATIONAL MAN OF MYSTERY** (15): Wayward spoof of Swinging Sixties cinema, with Mike Myers and Elizabeth Hurley. Director, Jay Roach.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Gate** Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **CONSPIRACY THEORY** (15): Over-inflated, mood-swinging thriller with Mel Gibson and Julia Roberts, directed by Richard Donner.
Odeons: Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE FULL MONTY** (15): Unemployed steelworkers strip for cash. Bouncy British comedy, with Robert Carlyle, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Addy. Director, Peter Cattaneo.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **GROSSE POINTE BLANK** (15): Troubled hit man hits his class reunion. Hip comedy with John Cusack, Minnie Driver and Dan Aykroyd. Director, George Armitage.
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Odeon Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MRS BROWN** (PG): Queen Victoria's relationship with her servant John Brown. Focused, subtle drama, with Judi Dench and Billy Connolly. Director, John Madden.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Haymarket** (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

NIGHT FALLS ON MANHATTAN (15): Idealistic DA faces conflicting loyalties. Absorbing drama from director Sidney Lumet, with Andy Garcia, Ian Holm, and Lena Olin.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

Bell-bottomed blues

NEW POP ALBUMS

Ocean Colour Scene: still churning out that Sixties prog-rock sound on the competent, but uninspiring, *Marchin' Already*

OCEAN COLOUR SCENE
Marchin' Already
(Universal/MCA MCD 60048 £13.49)

ALTHOUGH routinely reviled for their attachment to certain progressive rock clichés of the 1960s, Ocean Colour Scene have won an army of admirers for whom the historical references merely provide a reassuring frisson of conventionality.

However, it is safe to say that neither their detractors nor the million or so people who bought the group's *Moseley Shoals* album are in for too many surprises with *Marchin' Already*.

With its liberal use of backwards-taped guitar, phasing and Leslie speaker effects, the production by Brendan Lynch is often comically retro, and never more so than on the opening track, *Hundred Mile High City*, a bustling tour de force of skipped beats, awkward pushes and furious blues-rock riffing by guitarist Steve Cradock.

From there they settle into *Better Day*, a wistful, Beatles-influenced tune with a descending piano motif, which showcases the soulful vocals of Simon Fowler. As with so many of the band's songs, the lyrics are cryptic to the point of meaninglessness, but oddly evocative: "Harry carried on in his usual way/And Minnie went inside/And came out once and we both cried/And Minnie blew my head away".

There are some fine performances, especially the delicate soul/ska hybrid *Half a Dream Away* and the epic, heartsore ballad, *It's a Beautiful Thing*, featuring the voice of 1960s soul star P.P. Arnold. But for all the energy and expertise of the musicians, the production and songwriting rarely amounts to more than the ersatz sum of its inspirations.

HURRICANE #1
Hurricane #1
(Creation CRECD 206 £13.99)

IF Ocean Colour Scene are to be criticised for their lack of originality, where does that leave a bunch of Johnny-come-latelys such as Hurricane #1? So derivative they couldn't even come up with a name that wasn't already taken, this is the group led by guitarist Andy Bell, formerly with pre-Britpop also-rans Ride.

Despite negating a good 20 years of technological progress with their meat and potatoes guitar-band sound, their songwriting betrays little in the way of roots or foundations reaching beyond the monolithic presence of their labelmates Oasis, in whose image this album is fashioned and in whose shadow it is destined to remain.

A handful of tracks, such as the first single, *Step into my World*, suggest a modest talent for spinning out a grand, swirling guitar coda and carrying a catchy chorus, but more typical of the album as a whole is the painfully obvious chord sequence, plodding mid-tempo rhythm and facile title of *Faces in a Dream*.

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DAVID TOOP
Spirit World
(Virgin 7243 8 44748 £15.99)

A SCHOLAR and archivist of all things ambient, David Toop is gradually laying down a substantial body of his own work in between organising Virgin's *Ocean of Sound* series of compilations and sundry other projects.

Whereas on previous albums Toop has tended to shy away from anything likely to be mistaken for a melody or a rhythm, on *Spirit World* he drops his guard long enough to present *Spirits Shimmered Among the Live People*, a gently drifting, 24-minute noodle underpinned by a light jazz-funk groove which forms a relaxed if unremarkable centrepiece of the album.

More dramatic is the claustrophobic atmosphere of *Sleeping Powder*, an eerie meeting of the worlds of David Lynch and the Aphex Twin, and its companion piece *Ceremony Viewed Through Iron Slit*, a sinister fantasy/horror narrative which Toop intones in a ghostly whisper. Ambient music can sometimes seem awfully waffly, but there is some real meat here.

MARK MORRISON
Only God Can Judge Me
(WEA 0630-19539 £8.99)

WHETHER he is a victim of prejudice or just another pop star with a persecution complex, Mark Morrison has certainly wasted no time in co-opting his colourful life experiences of the past 12 months into his art. The prurient reportage of Morrison's antisocial behaviour, and his six-week stay in prison for threatening a police officer, is all grist to the mill, so much so that it is difficult to respond to his "mini-LP" *Only God Can Judge Me* as anything other than a crude PR exercise.

A swiftly assembled, stopgap collection of tracks, it starts with a pair of plummy-voiced newsreaders reciting snippets of reports about Morrison's antics, and ends with a gospel choir singing a brief Morrison composition modestly entitled *Lord's Prayer Pt II*. Strip away the rest of the padding — including a one-line interview with Morrison on Radio 1 and a live version of his biggest hit, *Return of the Mack* — and there is enough to make a reasonable EP.

Blackstabbers is a paranoid rap/rant in full-on Cameo mode: *Who's the Mack!* is basically *Return of the Mack* without the tune; and the title track is a resonant plea for understanding. Whatever the merits of Morrison's case, frankly this is not enough.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	(1)	**Be Here Now**	Oasis (Creation)
2	(3)	**OK Computer**	Radiohead (Parlophone)
3	(2)	**White on Blonde**	Texas (Mercury)
4	(4)	**The Fat of the Land**	Prodigy (XL Recordings)
5	(6)	**Calling all Stations**	Genesis (Virgin)
6	(18)	**Much Love**	Shola Ama (WEA)
7	(23)	**New Forms**	Roni Size/Reprazent (Talkin' Loud)
8	(5)	**Mouth to Mouth**	Levellers (China)
9	(–)	**Fun with the Teletubbies**	Cast Recording (BBC)
10	(9)	**Spice**	Spice Girls (Virgin)

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● *Figure in brackets denotes last week's position*

Two for the show

NEW JAZZ ALBUMS

D.D. JACKSON
Paired Down, Volume 1
(Justin Time JUST 99-2)

THE Canadian-born pianist D.D. Jackson rose to prominence chiefly through his association with the saxophonist David Murray, but he has also worked extensively with all the other musicians featured on this album of duets: baritone saxophonist Hamiet Bluiett, violinist Billy Bang, reedsman James Carter, trumpeter Hugh Ragin and bassist Santi Debriano.

Jackson's most readily discerned musical influence, however, comes from his late mentor and tutor, Don Pullen. *Like Pullen's, the Canadian's* playing is vigorously percussive, but broad-based and sensitive, enabling him to move between tender, melodic threnodies for Miles Davis and Pullen himself and clever tributes to the likes of Chick Corea. This album is not only virtuosic and gutsy, but also full of promise for Volume 2, set to feature trombonist Ray Anderson and clarinettist Don Byron.

STEVE TURRE
Steve Turre
(Verve 537 133-2)

HAVING been a mainstay of both Dizzy Gillespie's United Nation Orchestra and Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy, trombonist Steve Turre is adept at incorporating so-called "world" rhythms into jazz, and this album is, in his words, the fruit of "the Three Branches of the Tree": American jazz, Latin music from Cuba and samba/bossa nova from Brazil.

Turre's lightly percussive themes, and the album's visits to Ellington and Machito classics, draw heavily on all three traditions, and the band sound is garnished with a host of unusual sounds from shells, balafon, marimba et al. It is the trombone, however, played with powerful expressiveness by Turre himself, with vigorous wit by J.J. Johnson, and with crooning elegance by Britt Woodman, that takes centre stage.

CHRIS PARKER

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Humbug in the wind

Elton John aside, pop's tributes to the Princess seem to be rather lacking in sincerity

The grieving process is a strange and misty thing — which of us knows how we will react to the death of someone close, until such an event should occur? For instance, I was eight when my grandmother died, and I responded by eating a *whole malt loaf* and then vomiting it out of the landing window on to the shed roof. Between retches, I sang *Yesterday* by the Beatles in a quavery little voice. Until that moment, I had no idea that this would be my chosen method of expressing grief.

CAITLIN MORAN

As musicians are compelled to express their emotions through their art, so the Elton John song to Princess Diana is an entirely appropriate memorial. He knew her; the song was a teary part of the funeral; the proceeds are going to charity; and it's all been done very tastefully. Elton has acted with decorum. He and decorum haven't tangoed much in the past, but then this is one of life's little ironies. A man who, let's face it, has frequently appeared onstage dressed as a picnic has acted with more emotional etiquette in the past week than the whole music industry combined.

For instance, Chris de Burgh was present at the funeral, so one presumes that he knew the Princess. However, was I the only one who felt a little uneasy when he popped up to be interviewed by David Dimbleby an hour later, to tell us about a song he'd written about her? Was I the only one who felt amazed that in a week in which someone he knew had died, he'd found time to film himself singing said song, and was happy to show the film during the coverage of a state funeral?

Because the Princess's death provoked such a febrile public mood, other pop stars have had to watch their mouths. The Spice Girls stated that they were delaying the release of their next single so that "Elton John could spend as long as possible at No 1". Now, there is no event in the world that will stop Elton John being at No 1 for at least two months. Not to buy the Elton John single will be seen as a political act *in some parts of Britain*. Oasis may very well be bigger than God, but sales of *Candle in the Wind* are going to make sales of *D'You Know What I Mean?* look like those for the last Yummy Fur twelve-inch.

The Spice Girls' management are canny — they manage the Spice Girls, how much cannier do you need to be? — and they know this. The Spice Girls' single is being held back because, naturally, they want it to go to No 1. So why pretend otherwise? And Kylie Minogue's frankly baffling withdrawal of her *Impossible Princess* album — all copies were recalled and renamed, at a cost of tens of thousands of pounds — is also equally bizarre. Does this mean that the use of the word "princess" is now, in some way, emotionally illegal? Surely this would also extend to "Diana" and "Wales" being, in some mad way, banned?

All this overreaction is starting to look like doing something for the sake of being seen to do something. These panicked popstars would do well to read a bit of the Welsh (Oh no! I said Welsh! How *tactless*) philosopher D.Z. Philips, who suggested that the only profound response to truly horrific events is silence. If only the one-minute silence was being released as a single . . .

SIMON SCHLUTER

"I'd rather people judge me on the basis of who I am rather than an image that's half of who I am," says Mariah Carey from the depths of her self-analysis — and hotel pillow

In bed with my career

Mariah Carey's marital breakdown has led to a highly personal album. **Paul Sexton** meets a determined diva

Because of her separation in May from her husband of four years, record company chief Tommy Mottola, Mariah Carey's 1997 was always going to be seen first and foremost as the Year of the Split. But that does not mean the biggest-selling female artist of the 1990s has been idle on the work front.

Since a million self-satisfied I-told-you-sos were triggered by the separation, Carey has made another momentous decision, replacing the manager who had accompanied every step of her unstoppable ascent. She has also completed what she considers to be the most personal of her five studio albums, *Butterfly*, which wafted into British record stores yesterday.

Already it is clear that, for all the personal trauma, Carey still has Midas on the payroll: this week, the album's first single, *Honey*, went straight to No 1 in the American charts, taking her ahead of Whitney Houston and Madonna as the female artist with the most chart-topping singles ever. Carey is still on fire, or, as *Billboard* magazine was moved to put it, paraphrasing the Notorious B.I.G., "Mo' Honey, No Problems".

For my audience with Carey, I was summoned to a room in her London hotel — not her own chambers, it soon became clear, but a boudoir loaned by a member of Team Carey — and was introduced to the chanteuse reclining 'neath the sheets in a skimpy two-piece number. I shook the hand of pop royalty, pondering whether the same faux-intimate location would have been chosen had the interviewer been Mrs Merton.

She is attracted to such settings, it seems, by the fatigue induced by an obsessively hands-on approach to her career. *Butterfly* was completed hazardously close to deadline, and Carey takes responsibility for that. By her admission, she is not at home to the word "delegation".

"I can't put my record in anybody else's hands because nobody else really cares as much as I do about it," she says. "Other producers are always moving on to the next project. That's why I co-produce everything that I do, because I don't really trust anybody's opinion or devotion to it as much as my own."

Such an attitude can either be seen as laudably realistic or something of a brush-off for the producers who helped her to prepare *Butterfly* for take-off, including longtime sideman Walter Afanasieff and urban music's man of the moment, Sean "Puffy" Combs. Either way, the album is more soulful than any of its platinum-plated predecessors and lyrically, says Carey, it is closer to her true, vulnerable self.

"There are some lyrics that are completely personal. I put it on and it calms me, I go to sleep with the album. I've never done that before. The other day I woke up to one of the songs and I almost can't believe I put it out — it's so personal.

"People are going to be so analytical about a lot of it because of what's been going on in my personal life, but even beyond that, it almost feels like I'm letting go of a part of me."

She speaks affectionately of *Close my Eyes*, a reflective piece that, unlike many of her other ballads, does not come choked with cabaret sentimentality. In the song she describes herself as a woman-child who "was on the verge of fading/Thankfully I woke up in time".

"That's not a reference to my marriage," she says swiftly. "I've had to be a grown-up since I was six years old. My mother worked two jobs, my brother was supposed to stay home and watch me and he was out doing his thing."

Her Venezuelan father and Irish-American, opera-singing mother divorced when Carey was a toddler. "I don't feel it's really appropriate to go into the dark craziness that went on in parts of my life," she says now. "Thank God I had, and have, a mother who encouraged and inspired me, and is one of the main reasons I'm here today.

"In the song I guess I was thinking about how far I'd come, but how I was in so many ways that same little girl always struggling to feel OK about myself."

Aware that every lyric, every last comment will be dissected for clues about her relationship with Mottola (whom she thanks in the album's liner notes "for being here in every way"), Carey says she has already had to field some laughable misinterpretations.

"They said my video for *Honey* is my revenge on Tommy because I have an actor in it that people say reminds them of him. They said: 'She's a princess trapped in a mansion, and she jumps out of the window and goes in the pool and changes clothes.'

"But it was a Bond movie spoof, I'm a secret agent, not a princess. It's tongue-in-cheek, but everybody made out like it was my big shot at him. I just wanted to show my personality because I don't think the public has ever seen it. I don't think people even know I can complete a sentence."

She has resumed acting studies, and the first draft of a movie has just arrived. But whether on the silver screen or through freshly introspective lyrics, she is determined to become known as herself.

"When you're in the middle of a huge corporate machine people can tend to be very cautious if you allow them to be. It's not that anybody had anything but my best interests at heart, but it's not as fulfilling to be someone that people don't know.

"People are going to judge you regardless, so I'd rather people judge me on the basis of who I am rather than an image that's half of who I am."

- *Butterfly is released by Columbia*

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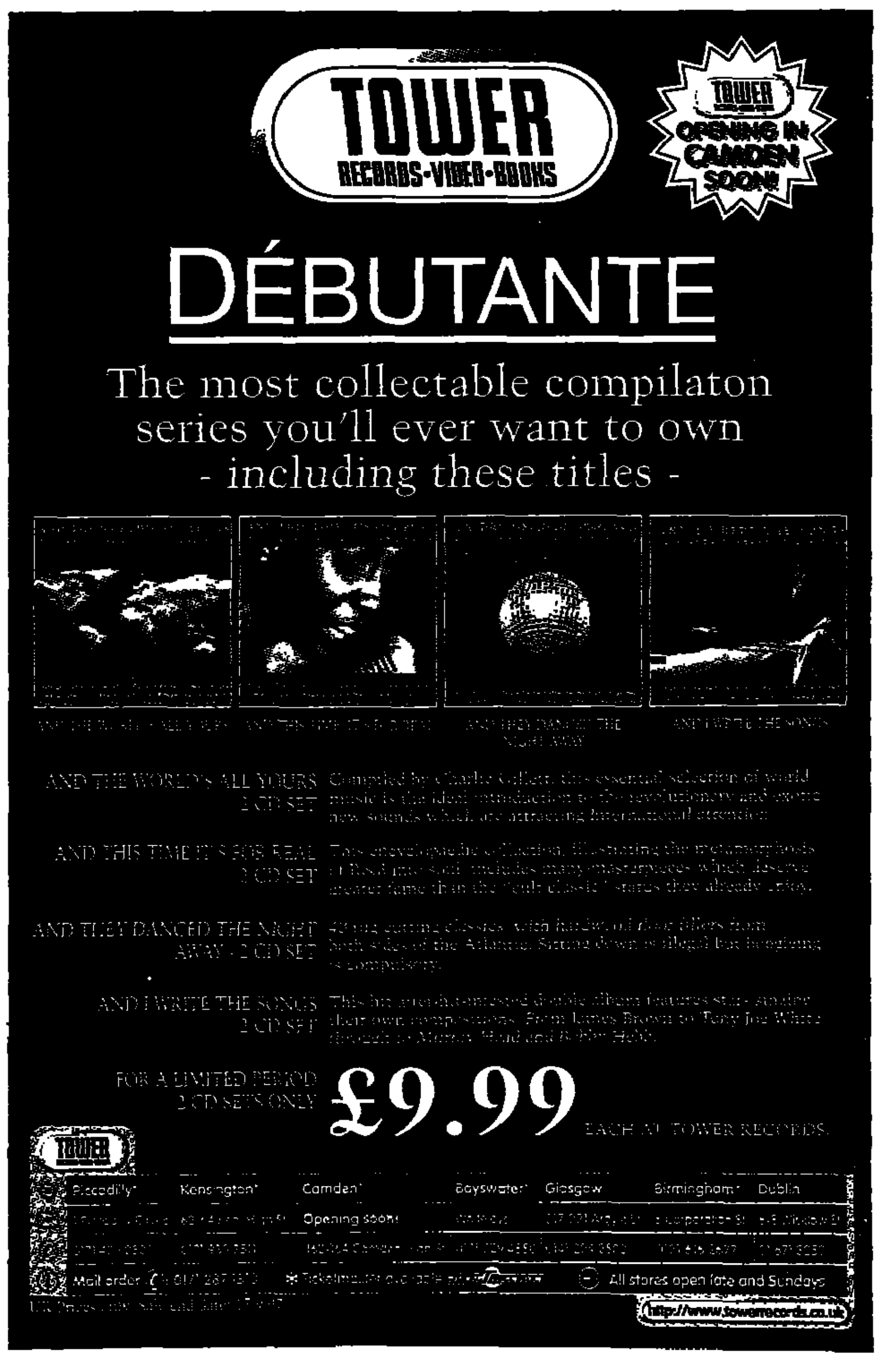

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Full details from: Mr I R McNeil, Lancing College, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0RW. Telephone: 01273 452213.
Applications with c.v. and names of three referees by Wednesday, 15 October 1997 please.

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An information pack and application form are available from the Head of Contracts & Personnel, Education Department, Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 2PU. Tel: 0181 871 7974.

Closing date: 6 October 1997.

Interviews will take place in October.

Visually impaired applicants requiring job information on tape or in Braille please contact Caroline Dempsey on 0181 871 6963. Hearing impaired applicants please call our Minicom on 0181 871 8666.

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Further particulars are available from the Headmaster's Secretary, Winchester College, College Street, Winchester SO23 9NA. (Tel: 01962 621100 Fax: 01962 621106). Please mark the envelope KMYS/TT. Closing date for applications: 30 September.

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

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Funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, the group will focus on the utilization of social network models for the description and analysis of transformation processes in Muslim societies. It comprises four sub-projects of comparative research in Islamic education and scholarly culture in selected areas of the Islamic world.

By its programme "Junior Research Groups at Universities" the Volkswagen Foundation wants to provide young and excellent scholars and scientists with the opportunity to organize their own independent research team. The post of the Head of the Research Group (BAT Ia) is to be filled for five years. His/her field of duties includes research in one sub-project, coordination and planning of the Group's activities, and lecturing at the Department (at least 2 hours per week).

Application is open to young scholars of Islamic studies or of Oriental Studies, Ottoman, Turkish or Iranian Studies with an Islamological orientation (age to 35 years, Ph.D.). Applicants are required to have research experience in Islam in Russia/Central Asia (relevant publications desirable) and a thorough knowledge of Arabic, Turkish, Persian, and Russian as well as German and English.

The Ruhr-Universität seeks to promote women in research and instruction.

Applications from handicapped persons are welcomed.

Applications including the usual credentials and a sketch of the applicant's *research interests are to be sent until November, 30th, to: Prof. Dr. Stefan* **Reichmuth, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Seminar für Orientalistik und Indologie, GB 2, Universitätsstraße 150, D-44780 Bochum.**

ARDINGLY COLLEGE

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HEAD

for September 1998

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Further details from:

Mr A A Holmes
Woodard Schools (Southern Division) Limited
Nile House, P O Box 1034
Nile Street, Brighton BN1 1JB
Telephone: 01273 324411

Application letter and forms with CV to the above address by
Monday, 6th October 1997 please

DULWICH COLLEGE **ALLEYN'S SCHOOL**

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

Applications are invited for the post of Clerk to the Governors which will become vacant in the summer of 1998 on the retirement of Mr R.A. Alexander.

Further details are available from:
The Clerk's Secretary, 87 College Road, Dulwich, London SE21 7HH.
(Please quote TT/1 when replying)

The closing date for applications is **Friday, 10th October, 1997.**

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Candidates should preferably have sucessful experience in these fields, be computer literate and be in sympathy with the family ethos of the smaller independent school. Applicants with relevant experience of estate management in a non-academic context are also invited to apply.

Full details and form of application may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary, Christ College, Brecon, Powys LD3 8AG
(Tel. 01874 623359 Fax. 01874 611478).
The closing date for applications is 4th October 1997.

EMANUEL SCHOOL
HEAD

The Governors of Emanuel School invite *applications for the post of Head which will* become vacant on 1 September 1998 on the appointment of Tristram Jones-Parry to the Headship of Westminster School. Founded in 1594, Emanuel is an independent (HMC) day school for 750 boys and girls aged 10 to 18.

Further particulars may be obtained form the Director, United Westminster Schools, 53 Palace Street, Westminister SW1E 5HJ (telephone 0171 828 3055). The closing date for applications is 6 October 1997.

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هدية من الأهرام

EDUCATION

Will fees fill the funding gap?

Paying for tuition may be no guarantee that universities will gain more resources, argues **John O'Leary**

Some vice-chancellors believe that universities will be lucky to see much money from student fees

Universities breathed a collective sigh of relief when the Government agreed to introduce tuition fees in 1998. But when their vice-chancellors meet in Strathclyde next week, they will be as anxious as ever about what ministers term a funding "crisis" in higher education.

Anyone who believed that fees represented an instant solution to the serious financial problems identified by Sir Ron Dearing in July was swiftly disabused this week at a London conference organised by the vice-chancellors. A common fear was that universities would be lucky to see much money from fees this side of the millennium — if ever.

Faced with a funding gap of at least £200 million by 1998/99, vice-chancellors have sought in vain for a signal from ministers that students would derive some benefit from their future sacrifices. Kim Howells, the Minister for Lifelong Learning, passed up an opportunity to reassure them on Tuesday, and the message is certain to be the same next week.

Diana Warwick, chief executive of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, had already put down a clear marker for Dr Howells, claiming a "strong consensus" among MPs as well as students and employers, that support for fees was conditional on a net gain for universities. "Tuition fees must result in a better-resourced higher sector. It won't have been worth it otherwise."

Dr Howells again acknowledged that universities faced a short-term crisis, but said he could not prejudge the Treasury's spending review. While accepting that universities needed the earliest possible indication of how much money they could expect, he gave no hint of a satisfactory resolution in November's Budget.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, has guaranteed that universities and colleges will benefit when savings start to flow from the abolition of grants and the introduction of fees. But the Government's commitments and the Treasury's accounting rules make it far from certain when that will be.

The Chancellor's pledge to keep to the Conservatives' spending plans means that extra money will be available officially only in the next century. Unless there is a change of practice by the Treasury, all the additional loans made in place of grants will count as public expenditure, with no allowance made for future repayments.

The problem was foreseen by Sir Ron, who said in his report that the practice was "at variance with the facts" and recommended it be changed to make a realistic allowance for repayment. Nick Barr, an expert in the field at the London School of Economics, says the Treasury rules are unusually strict, internationally, and could be changed within the requirements of the Maastricht treaty.

However it is calculated, much of the projected saving is likely to go into setting up the machinery needed for the new system. That could still leave a potentially disastrous funding gap for many universities over the next two years.

Sir Ron was acutely aware of this, too. He emphasised in his foreword the universities' "pressing needs" for more funding in 1998 and 1999, putting their shortfall as high as £900 million by the end of the century.

Bahram Bekhradnia, director of policy at the Higher Education Funding Council for England, was only slightly more sanguine about the sector's short-term prospects at Tuesday's conference. He put the immediate funding gap at £200 million and, referring to Dr Howells's use of the word "crisis", added: "I have never heard a Government describe the funding situation in a public service in those terms."

Mr Bekhradnia said that, after a 40 per cent cut in funding per student over 20 years, the funding council acknowledged that the scope for further efficiency savings was limited. Anything more than a 1 per cent budget reduction would imply a cut in services even for the current number of students, and a rising 18-year-old population suggested the imminent resumption of expansion recommended by Sir Ron.

The official attitude of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals is that the extra money will be forthcoming in the end. Since fees are already potentially unpopular, the Chancellor may not want to take further risks with public opinion, and leading university figures have decided that there is nothing to be gained by rocking the boat before the Budget.

But, beneath this bland exterior, frantic talks are still taking place. Next week's meeting will see the threat of top-up fees back on the CVCP's agenda, although the leadership will try to keep this ultimate weapon in reserve.

Today's edition of *The Times Educational Supplement* quotes a briefing paper for the conference that says: "It is important to keep the threat of top-up fees on the table, given the lack of assurances that additional funding for higher education will be provided in the short term." The committee refuses to comment on confidential papers, but acknowledges that any university has the right to vary its own fees.

The problem for those contemplating such a course is that the Government can also vary the amount of grant it allocates. There have been heavy hints in the past that any university levying its own fees on top of the Government's would be penalised so that it gained no advantage.

Planning for the worst while hoping for the best, vice-chancellors have been drawing up plans for further economies if the private assurances that they have received turn out to be empty. Even at Cambridge University, for example, a strategic plan for 1997-2001 envisages the loss of about 60 academic jobs if there is no increase in funding.

Cambridge is an obvious candidate for top-up fees, although the university has always seen them as a last resort. Others at the Strathclyde meeting may consider that they will have no alternative if the Budget fails to live up to expectations.

Schools can, and do, make a difference

Michael Barber challenges a report's claims that improvement in standards is random

At the consultation conferences this week on the White Paper *Excellence In Schools*, there is a striking unanimity about the standards agenda the Government has put forward. The publication last week of a report, which openly questions the Government's emphasis on raising literacy and numeracy standards, provided a rare voice of dissent.

The report, from Peter Robinson, a research officer at the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics (*The Times*, September 5), is welcome because it demands that the Government not only states its policy, but also spells out the rationale on which it is based.

Dr Robinson raises two issues that must be addressed: first, the relative impact of any educational intervention on pupil achievement. Secondly, whether greater attention should be given to the performance of low achievers.

The first argument relies on evidence from two surveys, the 1970 British Cohort survey and the 1958 National Child Development Study. From these, one can analyse factors associated with low achievement in literacy and numeracy. Dr Robinson acknowledges that this leaves him examining the impact of primary schools from 1963 to 1969 and from 1975 to 1981, a significant problem when it comes to determining policies for the late Nineties, but the weaknesses go deeper than that.

The surveys he cites demonstrate the importance of social class as a predictor of pupil performance. Their weakness is that they do nothing to explain why children with identical socio-economic backgrounds do well in some schools and badly in others. Are we to understand that this occurs merely at random, and that nothing the school can do can make a difference?

Surely this is absurd. The fact that Dr Robinson is unable to find a causal link between any school improvement intervention and a change in standards does not mean there isn't one. It may simply be that he has not looked hard enough. After all, research into school effectiveness and into school improvement has shown that there is a school effect. Good schools combine strong leadership and academic focus, teaching quality, high expectations, and discipline among others to raise achievement beyond what might otherwise be predicted. The importance of these factors is reinforced where schools combine them, and work to bring about improvement.

Worse still, Dr Robinson's report manages to bypass three decades of literary research, which has shown what works for schools in improving pupils' performance; interactive whole-class teaching, better-focused group reading in class, direct teaching of phonics and more sustained listening by parents to children reading at home. Research demonstrates that these approaches work.

Dr Robinson similarly ignores the research on numeracy. We need to ask why these studies get such little billing in a report that claims to be on literacy and numeracy. If he had spent more time on this evidence, he would surely have developed a new understanding about how to improve standards. It is possible, with strategic thinking, to combine a range of interventions, all of which have a positive impact on standards. The Government's literacy and numeracy strategy, the details of which will be announced shortly, does precisely this. It is not necessary to choose between training teachers to teach better reading, encouraging reading at home and promoting literacy through the media. We can and will do all three over the next five years.

Thinking about education in general needs to make a similar shift. To those who ask "Should we address disadvantage, or improve schools?", we would answer "Why not do both?"

The Government will, with its partners in education, drive ahead with its standards agenda. Through the new cross-Whitehall social exclusion unit and other initiatives, it will also attack poverty and disadvantage.

Barber: "Report ignores research"

To those who ask, as Dr Robinson does: "Should our focus be on average performance or the performance of the 'long tail' of underachievers?", we would answer "both". The literacy strategy will deliver training and support for all schools and intensive training and support for those that need it most. At a time when it is critical to reassert the contribution of good teachers, head teachers and schools, Dr Robinson's analysis threatens to deny that they make a contribution at all. The analysis harks back to the social determinism of the Sixties, when we were told that schools did not make a difference. Nothing, surely, can do more damage to morale than being told that, however hard you work, it makes no difference. In effect, this is Dr Robinson's message.

The Government's view is the opposite. Teachers have awesome responsibility. They shape the next generation. From Government will come a combination of pressure to succeed and support to make success possible. It can be done.

● *Professor Michael Barber is head of the Standards and Effectiveness Unit at the Department for Education and Employment*

How to soften the shock of the new

Changing schools need not cause trauma, says **Morag Preston**

With a new school come fresh anxieties. Whether they stem from finding classrooms or making friends, switching schools brings a satchel full of worries.

But the problems can be overcome. Weeks before the start of term, Elizabeth Piper went with her 11-year-old daughter to look around Claire's new school. "Claire was worried she wouldn't know which entrance to use," Mrs Piper says.

On passing her 11-plus, Claire took the bus by herself for the first time to a "taste day" at the grammar school for girls. The next day the Pipers met her new teachers.

Claire's school career has been chequered, so her parents have done all they can to smooth the path. Before her state primary Claire was at a private school near by. Then her family, from Hildenborough, was hit by the recession. "Removing her was a big step," her mother says. "Now we feel we've got to where we wanted to be, without the cost. Claire didn't seem to notice, and still sees friends from her old school."

The switch from a private to a state school was harder for their eldest son, Mark, now 13. He had been educated privately for three years when the move came soon after his seventh birthday. "His new classmates made fun of the way he spoke," his mother says. "He felt an oddbod, but we ignored it. Had it gone over the top, we'd have done something."

In such cases, when problems become too serious for parents to cope with, LEA schools offer the services of a visiting welfare officer.

Ruth Molyneux, 16, surprised her parents, who live near Tonbridge, by announcing that she wanted to change schools for A levels. Having applied for various prospectuses, Ruth set her sights on the local boys' grammar, which takes girls in the sixth form.

All change: Ruth Molyneux

Her mother, Penny, says: "It was entirely her decision and we supported her. The practical side is that the school is nearer our home, and its name will look good on her CV."

Six other girls from Ruth's former school — though not her closest friends — also applied to switch. Her younger brother, Tom, is already at her new school, and Ruth had been with her mother to see a sixth-form play there. After an interview Ruth was offered a place, conditional on five GCSEs at Grade A. Had she not come up trumps, she would have had to stay put.

"Ruth's last day at the school was very emotional for her," Mrs Molyneux says. "She didn't know whether she would be going back there. But she wanted to broaden her horizons."

Sarah Knowles, 7, has enough new pencil cases to take her through to university. They were an effective incentive for her first day at primary school. Her mother, Catherine, says: "She got ready incredibly quickly, and was waiting at the door half an hour before we were due to leave."

Sarah's new school is a hop and a skip from her previous playground, but she still had concerns. Her father, David, from Chatham, says: "Homework had been mentioned and Sarah had been working on her spelling during the holidays, but I think she was looking forward to it. Staying with the same circle of friends has been the key."

About 80 per cent of Sarah's classmates from her first school have made the move with her. They spent an introductory morning at the school before the holidays, and their parents were given a tour that afternoon. "She knew what to expect," says her father.

Primaries thrive on technology link

Iola Smith on the high school that came to the rescue

Two years ago, Sue Parsons, head of the 66-pupil Llanfihangel Rhydithon Primary School in Powys, acknowledged that small rural schools lack the expertise and resources to teach technology effectively.

At first she thought of employing a part-time specialist to introduce the subject at key stage 2. Then she had another idea. She turned to Brian Heard, head of the local secondary school ten miles away at Llandrindod Wells, for help.

"I offered to buy in expertise from the high school," she says. "I thought we could help each other."

From that small beginning, Llandrindod Wells High School now helps its ten feeder primaries to deliver the national curriculum's technology requirements. For a fee of £24 an hour, Graham Haslock and Eddie Jones, Llandrindod's technology teachers, introduce the intricacies of computing, design and model-making.

Pupils are either bussed in to the school, where they spend two hours a week at the £250,000 technology centre, or, as in the case of Llanfihangel, Mr Jones travels to the primary school.

"Their technology programme, which currently focuses on making wind chimes and water wheels, fits into our term topic of water," Mrs Parsons says. "We are also having a community hall built and the pupils have been using the computer to make architectural plans of the building."

Another feeder primary, Nantmel School, is equally enthusiastic about the technology link. "It is a tremendous asset," says Alis Hobbs, teacher of junior age children at the small 32-pupil primary school. "Our pupils use Llandrindod's equipment and they are designing model bridges and buggies, using computer-aided design and modelling kits. The work has certainly stretched them."

'Children appreciate exploring projects that they otherwise could not do'

Without Llandrindod's assistance, Nantmel would not be able to offer such a broad design curriculum. The school has only 15 children in years 4, 5 and 6 combined. It would therefore have been impossible to obtain the requisite equipment unaided.

Some of the other participating primaries have chosen to design towers and new bedrooms. "Each design has to fit into a budget," Mr Haslock says. "The pupils learn about spreadsheets and maths as well as computer-aided design. If any venture goes over budget, the children have to choose what they leave out."

Pupils are also interested in automation. They learn how to control the opening and shutting of doors and the operation of traffic lights. "What the children appreciate about these sessions is that they have the chance to explore projects that they otherwise could not do," Mr Haslock says.

The curriculum is not the only beneficiary, however. The primary/secondary link makes the transition at 11 to the big school much less traumatic for the youngsters. Settling in at a comprehensive can be daunting for children familiar with the cosy comfort of a small village school. But the Powys children have visited the high school and got to know some of the staff and their working methods.

The high school, in turn, has become familiar with its future intake and is aware of the standards that individual pupils can achieve.

This month Llandrindod's technology centre is being opened up to the local community and a visitor centre is promoting scientific and technological awareness.

Small businesses and the public are being introduced to Llandrindod's environmental monitoring programme, which focuses on wind power, solar energy and the application of biotechnology. A technician mans the centre, paid for by the fees generated from teaching technology in the primary schools.

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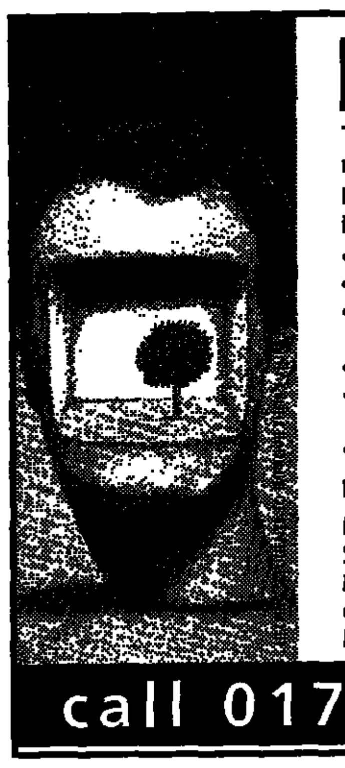

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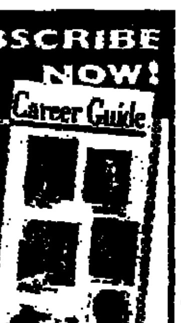

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Mr. K.D. Shaw, MBE, MSc, FCIS,
Bursar and Clerk to the Governors,
Loughborough Endowed Schools,
3 Burton Walks,
Loughborough,
Leicestershire, LE11 2DU.

(Telephone: 01509 267307 Fax: 01509 210486)

Those wishing to apply for the appointment should write a short letter, *enclosing a curriculum vitae and full details of 3 referees, to arrive by Friday* 3rd October, 1997 at the latest. Applications should be marked "Private and Confidential". The Governors hope to make an appointment by 30th November, 1997.

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FOOTBALL: GUESSING GAME CONTINUES OVER WHO WILL CLAIM AUTOMATIC WORLD CUP PLACE AS LEADING RUNNERS-UP

Battle to be best of the rest goes down to the wire

By Russell Kempson

RUNNERS-UP TABLE

PRESENT POSITIONS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Spain (6)	5	3	2	0	8	2	11
2 Italy (2)	5	3	2	0	5	0	11
3 Scotland (4)	5	3	1	1	6	2	10
4 Belgium (7)	5	3	0	2	8	9	9
5 Russia (5)	5	2	2	1	8	3	8
6 Ireland (8)	5	2	1	2	7	5	7
7 Greece (1)	5	2	1	2	6	4	7
8 Ukraine (9)	5	1	2	2	3	5	5
9 Hungary (3)	5	1	2	2	3	6	5

PREDICTED FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
1 Scotland (4)	6	4	1	1	13
2 Belgium (7)	6	4	0	2	12
3 Italy (2)	6	3	3	0	12
4 Russia (5)	6	3	2	1	11
5 Croatia (1)	6	3	2	1	11
6 Yugoslavia (6)	6	3	2	1	11
7 Portugal (9)	6	2	3	1	9
8 Ireland (8)	6	2	2	2	8
9 Hungary (3)	6	1	3	2	6

☐ Records based on results against first, third and fourth-placed teams in respective groups. Figures in brackets indicate qualifying group

IT KICKED off on April 24 last year, when Greece beat Slovenia 2-0, Yugoslavia defeated the Faeroe Isles 3-1 and Macedonia overcame Liechtenstein 3-0. Europe's 49 representatives set off on the World Cup trail, full of hope and expectation, yet it was always destined to end in tears for all bar the select 14 who will join France, the hosts, in the 1998 finals.

When the qualifying rounds conclude on October 11, nine group winners will have booked safe passage into the closing stages of the sport's premier tournament. Norway, Bulgaria and Romania have already done so; Denmark, Austria, Holland and Germany are but a hair's-breadth away; Spain or Yugoslavia, and England or Italy, will accompany them.

Four play-off victors will go, too, but it is the title of best runners-up, which also carries automatic entry to France, that has caused so much confusion and consternation. It is a puzzle of Rubik's Cube proportions — calculated by considering the results against the first, third and fourth-placed teams in each group — and it will need a computer when the great and good of Fifa, the game's world governing body, gather in Zurich to view their handiwork next month.

Until Wednesday, Austria and England appeared to hold the most likely claims to finish first of the seconds. Austria then beat Belarus 1-0 to take over the leadership of group four, pushing aside Scotland, and England rolled over Moldova 4-0 to assume control of group two, as Italy were held 0-0 in Georgia.

Hypothesising over such a tangle of possibilities — as to who will emerge as the leading runners-up — is fraught with danger. Deeper analysis does little to ease the stresses and strains of everyday life, either. It is a dirty job ... but someone's got to do it.

In group one, Denmark should either win or draw in Greece and secure first place. Croatia's likely victory away to Slovenia will not be enough to avoid the play-offs.

Patriotic myopia clearly decrees that, in group two, England should return from Rome with at least a point — thus condemning Italy to take the same route as Croatia. If England lose against Italy, they will tread the same path, too. It is unlikely that they can now head the runners-up table.

Norway have secured the group three honours, with Hungary needing to steer clear of defeat against Finland to take second place. A half-share in Helsinki will do the trick, but Hungary's runners-up record is poor. Whoever they draw in the ensuing two-legged tie, they will do well to progress further.

Austria should complete a swift double over Belarus to secure group four, but Scotland's expected romp against Latvia will be similarly significant. It should give them the lead in the runners-up table with 13 points, unlock the key of the door and allow Craig Brown, the coach, to don his beret, strap onions to the handlebars and pedal furiously for Paris.

Brown: well placed

Bulgaria are champions of group five and Russia second, the outcome decided by Bulgaria's 1-0 success in Sofia on Wednesday. Russia will probably reverse the result in Moscow, but it will be meaningless. Eleven points, in the runners-up equation, will not be enough.

In group six, Spain and Yugoslavia are separated only by goals scored. However, Spain will take at least four points from their remaining games against Slovakia and the Faeroe Isles, thereby rendering useless Yugoslavia's anticipated mauling of Malta, their one remaining game. Savo Milosevic, Aston Villa's Yugoslavia striker, must entertain thoughts of two more matches.

If Turkey win in Holland in group seven and Belgium somehow fail to wallop Wales, there will be Turkish delight aplenty — perhaps because of goal difference — in the Bosphoros. It won't happen, though, even in the wildest dreams of Bobby Gould, the Wales manager. Belgium will narrowly miss out on the best runners-up berth.

Ireland have clinched second spot behind Romania in group eight, barring a freak of statistical nature, and are already contemplating a third successive appearance in the finals, via the play-offs. Albania will not stop Germany's solid if unimpressive advance in group nine, while Portugal, by brushing aside Northern Ireland, will overhaul Ukraine at the last moment.

So Scotland for France, through the side door? If only it were that simple. Should Moldova win their final two matches and Georgia register only one draw from theirs, Italy would suddenly discover two more points to go towards their runners-up tally — giving them 14, one more than Scotland. Craig Brown's beret would have to go back on the peg for a bit longer.

MARTIN DAM KRISTENSEN

Suker, left, of Croatia, takes on Helveg in the 3-1 defeat by Denmark on Wednesday

Ireland's ground for concern

By Russell Kempson

WHEN the Ireland squad arrived back at Dublin airport from their World Cup qualifying match victory in Lithuania, at a bleary-eyed 5.30 yesterday morning, there were few supporters to greet them. Commuters and holidaymakers went about their business but most were oblivious to the triumphant return of Mick McCarthy, the team's manager, and his players.

In 1990 and 1994, the terminal had been packed when Jack Charlton and his men returned from the World Cup finals. They were treated like heroes and fêted long into the night and the months ahead.

Mick McCarthy, Charlton's successor as Ireland manager, believes that he has rarely received the credit that his efforts have deserved. After the 2-1 win in Vilnius on Wednesday night, perhaps recognition and adulation are just around the corner.

Ireland will almost certainly finish as runners-up in group eight, behind Romania, and take part in the two-legged play-offs that will decide the last four European teams to progress to the finals in France next year. Technically, Lithuania could still deny them, but they have a vastly inferior goal difference.

There is a potential problem, though. The second leg of the play-off, on November 15, clashes with Ireland's rugby union international against New Zealand at Lansdowne Road. The Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU), which leases the ground to the Football Association of Ireland (FAI), is unable to reschedule the rugby match. If Ireland are drawn at home for the first leg, on October 29, the problem will not arise.

Bernard O'Byrne, the FAI chief executive, is to ask Fifa, football's world governing body, about the possibility of delaying the match by 48 hours, until the following Monday. "I have to speak some more with the IRFU, but there would seem to be no logistical reason why we couldn't stage another major sporting event back-to-back with the All Blacks," he said. "The only problem is clearing the ground of litter, which is why Monday night would be better than Sunday."

McCarthy has suggested switching the game to the 67,000-capacity Croke Park, home of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA). "Where else is big enough if we can't have Lansdowne Road?" he said. "I know it has never been asked before, but if we have nowhere else to go, I'm asking for it now."

Scots take comfort from group therapy

By Kevin McCarra

IT IS rare enough for Scotland to surpass England and perhaps unique that they should do so without stepping on to on a football field. A fine 4-0 victory over Moldova may have left England knowing that a draw in Italy will be sufficient to secure a place at the World Cup finals, but, north of the border, the prospects are even rosier.

Instead of hoping to survive a night in the Olympic Stadium in Rome, would it not be far more satisfying to realise that a mere win over Latvia at home was required? Such is the position, more or less, in which Scotland now find themselves after the tortuous joys of Wednesday evening.

Supporters who were trying to keep track of the implications of results in qualifying matches across Europe suffered several mood swings. To begin with, there was gloom. Austria won 1-0 in Belarus, making it probable that they will win group four. In subsequent hours, though, unexpected results turned second place in group four into something of a beauty spot: Slovakia drew 1-1 with Yugoslavia. Italy were held by Georgia in Tbilisi, Denmark defeated Croatia 3-1 and Russia lost 1-0 in Bulgaria.

Accordingly, if Scotland overcome Latvia on October 11 at Easter Road, they will probably claim the automatic place reserved for the best runners-up in the European qualifying groups — possibly at England's expense — although the complex qualification format dictates that Italy cannot be discounted.

The agonies of arithmetic slowly led Scotland supporters to jubilation. It is almost time for them to recognise the good fortune that was concealed in the distress of their 0-0 draw with Estonia.

Two points were dropped on that occasion, but they had been surrendered to a nation outside the top four in the group and do not come into the reckoning when the comparison with other runners-up is made.

A population that had been forced to sit the equivalent of a maths exam may, however, have been relieved to hear Craig Brown, the manager, state that Scotland had better fix its thoughts on the simple, essential task of beating Latvia.

WORLD CUP DETAILS

* qualified for finals

EUROPE

GROUP ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	7	5	1	1	14	6	16
Greece	7	4	1	2	11	4	13
Croatia	7	3	3	1	14	11	12
Bosnia	8	3	0	5	9	14	9
Slovenia	7	0	1	6	4	17	1

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Greece v Denmark, Slovenia v Croatia

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	7	6	0	1	15	2	18
Italy	7	5	2	0	11	1	17
Poland	6	2	1	3	7	9	7
Georgia	6	1	1	4	3	9	4
Moldova	6	0	0	6	2	17	0

MATCHES TO COME: Sept 24: Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England, Georgia v Poland

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
* Norway	8	6	2	0	21	2	20
Hungary	7	3	2	2	9	7	11
Finland	7	3	1	3	10	11	10
Switzerland	7	2	1	4	6	12	7
Azerbaijan	7	1	0	6	3	17	3

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Finland v Hungary; Switzerland v Azerbaijan.

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	9	7	1	1	13	4	22
Scotland	9	6	2	1	13	3	20
Sweden	9	6	0	3	15	9	18
Latvia	9	3	1	5	10	12	10
Belarus	9	1	1	7	5	17	4
Estonia	9	1	1	7	4	15	4

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Austria v Belarus; Sweden v Estonia; Scotland v Latvia.

GROUP FIVE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
* Bulgaria	7	6	0	1	16	5	18
Russia	7	4	2	1	15	3	14
Israel	8	4	1	3	9	7	13
Cyprus	7	2	1	4	8	15	7
Luxembourg	7	0	0	7	2	20	0

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Cyprus v Luxembourg, Russia v Bulgaria

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	9	6	2	1	24	7	20
Spain	8	6	2	0	21	4	20
Slovakia	8	5	1	2	17	9	16
Czech Republic	8	3	1	4	12	8	10
Faeroe Islands	9	2	0	7	9	28	6
Malta	8	0	0	8	2	31	0

MATCHES TO COME: Sept 24: Malta v Czech Republic; Slovakia v Spain. Oct 11: Czech Republic v Slovakia; Malta v Yugoslavia; Spain v Faeroe Islands

GROUP SEVEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	7	6	0	1	26	4	18
Belgium	7	5	0	2	17	9	15
Turkey	7	4	1	2	21	9	13
Wales	7	2	1	4	18	18	7
San Marino	8	0	0	8	0	42	0

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Holland v Turkey, Belgium v Wales

GROUP EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
* Romania	9	9	0	0	36	3	27
Ireland	9	5	2	2	21	7	17
Lithuania	9	4	2	3	9	7	14
Macedonia	9	4	1	4	21	16	13
Iceland	9	1	3	5	7	16	6
Liechtenstein	9	0	0	9	3	48	0

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Iceland v Liechtenstein; Ireland v Romania; Macedonia v Lithuania.

GROUP NINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	9	5	4	0	19	6	19
Ukraine	9	5	2	2	8	6	17
Portugal	9	3	4	1	11	4	18
Armenia	9	1	5	3	8	15	8
N Ireland	9	1	4	4	6	9	7
Albania	9	1	1	7	4	16	4

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 11: Germany v Albania, Portugal v Northern Ireland; Armenia v Ukraine.

Other Qualifiers

AFRICAN GROUP: Nigeria, Tunisia, South Africa, Cameroon, Morocco.

SOUTH AMERICA: Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay. One from Peru, Chile, Bolivia and Uruguay

France and Brazil qualify as host nation and holders

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

In the refresher last week, we saw how the correct play was an unusual high card from dummy at trick one. This week, we will look at a situation where the correct play is an unusual low card.

Dealer South **Game all**

North:
♠ 7 6 2
♥ Q J 2
♦ K Q J 10 9 2
♣ 8

West:
♠ 9 4
♥ K 10 9 8 3
♦ 6 3
♣ J 10 4 2

East:
♠ K Q 8 3
♥ 7 4
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ K 6 5

South:
♠ A J 10 5
♥ A 6 5
♦ 5
♣ A Q 9 7 3

S	W	N	E
1 C	Pass	1 D	Pass
1 S	Pass	3 D	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: ten of hearts

As in the hand last week, you have nine tricks: one spade, two hearts, one club and five diamonds once you have knocked out the ace. The problem is that the North hand is short of entries.

Suppose you make the "normal" play of the queen of hearts from dummy. If East played the king, you would have no further problems. You could win, knock out the ace of diamonds and later use the jack of hearts as an entry to the established winners.

But what if East does not play the king of hearts (either because he doesn't have it or because he is a shrewd defender)? Dummy's queen will win, you will knock out the ace of diamonds but have no entry back to dummy to cash your established winners.

The solution is straightforward. You must play low from dummy at trick one. Win the lead with your ace. Now knock out the ace of diamonds. There is no return that can damage you. East's best defence is to play a club. You win with the ace and play a heart. West can win but is helpless. Sooner or later you will get to dummy to cash your five diamond winners.

☐ For details of *The Times* Midland Private Banking National Bridge Challenge, call the organisers on 0181-942 9506.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SHAKESPEAREANS

BEVIS
a. A boy
b. A rebel
c. A peasant

LYSANDER
a. A general
b. A twin
c. A lover

PINCH
a. A clown's dog
b. A charlatan
c. A fairy

BASSET
a. A servant
b. A hound
c. A Lancastrian

Answers on page 42

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
chess correspondent

Early leader

One of the dark-horse prospects for the Smith & Williamson British championship at Hove was Tony Kosten, the grandmaster now resident in France. With two rounds to go, Kosten was well placed, but then lost in swift succession to Sadler and Adams, the eventual co-champions.

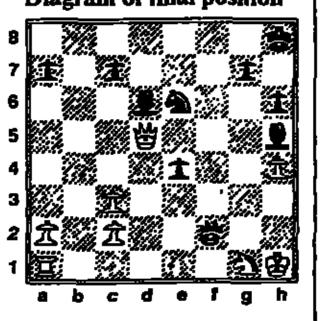
In the game today, Kosten reveals his main strength, the ability to outwit powerful opponents in tactical situations. Black's sixteenth move was a particularly fine stroke of this nature.

White: Joe Gallagher
Black: Tony Kosten
Smith & Williamson British *Championship, August 1997*
Vienna Game

1	e4	e5
2	Nc3	Nf6
3	g3	d5
4	exd5	Nxd5
5	Bg2	Nxc3
6	bxc3	Bc5
7	d3	0-0
8	Nf3	Nc6
9	0-0	Bg4
10	h3	Bh5
11	Qe2	f5
12	d4	Bd6
13	Qb5	e4
14	Ng5	Qe8
15	h4	h6
16	Nh3	Nxd4
17	Qd5+	Ne6
18	Qxb7	Rb8
19	Qd5	Rb5
20	Qc4	Rc5
21	Qb3	Bf7
22	Be3	f4
23	Bxc5	Nxc5
24	Qb4	f3
25	Qd4	fxg2
26	Kxg2	Ne6
27	Qd2	Bh5
28	Ng1	Qg6
29	Qd5	Kh8
30	Kh2	Rxf2+
31	Rxf2	Qxg3+
32	Kh1	Qxf2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



City challenge

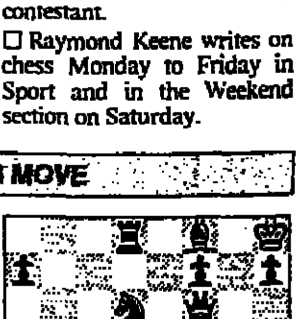
Next Thursday (September 18), at the Chartered Accountants Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2, I shall be giving a charity chess display against a maximum of 50 opponents in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal for the Cancer Research Campaign.

The event will be opened by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Roger Cork, at 4.30pm. To secure your table, please call the organiser, Michael Savory, *of Midland Stockbrokers*, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA (tel: 0171-260 5051, fax: 0171-260 0592). I will be donating a commemorative book to every contestant.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



Black to play. This position is from the game Speelman — *Plaskett, Smith & Williamson* British championship 1997. Here Black found a very accurate continuation which allowed him to generate a winning endgame. How did he continue?

Solution on page 42

FOR THE RECORD

BOWLS

BRISTOL: Cornhill Direct English over-55 championships: Singles: Semi-finals: C Owen (Culverden, Tunbridge Wells) bt S Bensley (North Walsham) 21-17, C Haydon (Swindon Westlecot) bt L Whitehouse (Vines Park, Droitwich) 21-20. Final: Haydon bt Owen 21-14. Pairs: Semi-finals: A Peacock and L Went (Paxman's, Essex) bt J Walsh and J Godfrey (Tally Ho!, Birmingham) 23-15; M Truran and I Gooding (St Francis, Sussex) bt J Davis and R Smith (Kingston, Yorkshire) 25-12. Final: Peacock and Went bt Truran and Gooding 28-8

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Second day of three: Old Trafford: Lancashire 370-8 dec (S P Titchard 72, G Yates 60, M J Chilton 56); Surrey 72 (D J Shadford 6-20) and 129 (D J Shadford 4-18). Lancashire won by an innings and 169 runs. Chelmsford: Essex 94 (P Aldred 6-45) and 52 (P Aldred 5-34, K J Dean 5-13). Derbyshire 347-8 dec (I J Blackwell 81, G M Roberts 54 no, J Spendlove 54). Derbyshire won by an innings and 201 runs.

EQUESTRIANISM

BURGHLEY: European championships: Dressage: 1, Great Britain 95pts. 2, New Zealand 97.8. 3, Holland 104.2. 4, France 104.4. 5, United States 107.8. 6, Germany 113.2. Individual placings: 1, Cyna (P Pantsu, Fin) 42.0. 2, Dawdle (A Nicholson, NZ) 46.8; 3, Star Appeal (M King, GB) 47.2; 4, Arakai (I Stark, GB) 47.8. 5, Otis (C van Rijckevorsel, Bel) 49.8. Other British positions: 8, Bits and Pieces (P Funnell) 51.2. 20, General Jock (K Gilford) 55; 30, Last of the Incas (E Watson) 60.2

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

WORLD CUP: European qualifying zone: Group one: Denmark 3 Croatia 1 (in Copenhagen). Bosnia-Herzegovina 1 Slovenia 0. Group two: England 4 Moldova 0 (at Wembley). Group three: Norway 5 *Switzerland 0 (in Oslo); Hungary 3 Azerbaijan 1* (in Budapest). Group four: Belarus 0 Austria 1 (in Minsk); Sweden 1 Latvia 0 (at Solna). Group five: Bulgaria 1 Russia 0 (in Sofia). Group six: Slovakia 1 Yugoslavia 1 (in Bratislava). Group seven: San Marino 0 Turkey 5 (in San Marino). Group eight: Lithuania 1 Ireland 2 (in Vilnius); Romania 4 Iceland 0 (in Bucharest). Group nine: Germany 4 Armenia 0 (in Dortmund). South American qualifying group: Chile 1 Argentina 2 (in Santiago). Colombia 1 Venezuela 0 (in Barranquilla). Paraguay 2 Bolivia 1 (in Asuncion). Peru 2 Uruguay 1 (in Lima).

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Third division: Rotherham United 3 Lincoln City 1.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Slough Town 1 Welling United 2.

SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP: Quarter-finals: *Celtic 1 Motherwell 0; Stirling Albion 0 Aberdeen 2.*

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Oxford United 0 Wimbledon 0; Swindon Town 0 Charlton Athletic 1; Tottenham Hotspur 3 Luton Town 0

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 1 Ebbw Vale 1; Carmarthen Town 3 Barry 5. Porthmadog 3 Conwy 0; Rhayader Town 2 Caersws 4; Connah's Quay 2 Welshpool 1

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Coleraine 5 Cliftonville 1, Crusaders 4 Ards 0; Glenavon 1 Ballymena 2

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland 1 Guiseley 1

ICIS LEAGUE: Guardian Insurance cup: First round: Croydon 3 Metropolitan Police 1; Leyton Pennant 2 Uxbridge 2 (aet); Molesey 0 Hampton 4

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Fareham 3 Newport AFC 1

ULSTER CUP: First division: Ballyclare 4 Larne 0; Carrick 0 Newry 2, Distillery 1 Bangor 0, Dungannon Swifts 4 Limavady 1

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool 1 Birmingham City 1; Manchester United 4 Sheffield Wednesday 0; Tranmere Rovers 0 Aston Villa 3, Preston North End 0 Blackburn Rovers 4. First division: Bolton Wanderers 1 Grimsby Town 0; Huddersfield Town 1 Coventry City 2. Oldham Athletic 0 Manchester City 2; West Bromwich Albion 0 Leicester City 3. Second division: York City 1 Burnley 3; Carlisle United 2 Blackpool 4. Stockport County 1 Shrewsbury Town 0. Wrexham 5 Bradford City 2. Third division: Doncaster Rovers 0 Bury 3; Hull City 2 Wigan Athletic 4, Scunthorpe United 1 Chester City 2; Walsall 1 Chesterfield 0

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Sheppey 2 Chatham 1

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First qualifying round: Ramsbottom 4 Chadderton 5, St Helens 3 Ossett Town 1; Stapenhill 3 Gornal 2, Ipswich 3 Lowestoft 0; Brandon 0 Penrith 2; Mile Oak 1 Lancing 2.

FA YOUTH CUP: First qualifying round: *Bedworth 4 Stourbridge 0, Kidderminster 3* Gornal 1, Wivenhoe 3 Malden Town 3; Wembley 4 Beaconsfield Sycob 0; Grays 1 Hendon 0; Thamesmead 1 Erith and Belvedere 3. Camberley 3 Bracknell 1. Preliminary round: Leyton Sports 3 Concord 5; Racing Club Warwick 1 Pershore 2.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Endsleigh 2 Swindon Supermarine 1

UNIJET SUSSEX LEAGUE: John O'Hara *league cup: Second round: Littlehampton* 4 Southwick 1

GOLF

SAINT-NOM-LA-BRETECHE, Paris: Lancôme Trophy: Leading first-round scores (GB and Ireland unless stated) 65: *S Ballesteros (Sp), P O'Malley (Aus).* 66: S Grappasonni (It), D Howell. 67: A *Johnstone (Zim), J Coceres (Arg), P Affleck,* M Jonzon (Swe), G Norman (Aus). 68: I Woosnam, D Chopra (Swe), P Lawrie, A Hunter, E Romero (Arg), L Westwood, W Riley (Aus). 69: G Evans, R Russell, P Price, S Field, D Gilford, P Mitchell, D Smyth, R Claydon, G Turner (NZ), J Lomas, F Tarnaud (Fr), R Rafferty, M O'Meara (US), S Ames (Trin)

BURNHAM AND BERROW, Somerset: Men's home amateur internationals: England 10½ Scotland 4½ (England names first) Foursomes: A Wainwright and R Duck lost to S Mackenzie 5 and 4; G Wolstenholme and J Rose bt G Lowson and S Horne 3 and 2, M Reynard and L Donald bt A Farmer and A Turnbull 4 and 3. C Edwards and S Philipson halved with G Rankin and C Watson. M Blackey and P Rowe bt G Fox and L Kelly 1 hole. Singles: Wainwright lost to Lowson 2 holes; Rose bt Rankin 1 hole; Donald bt Mackenzie 2 and 1; Duck lost to Patrick 2 and 1; K Wallbank bt Horn 7 and 6; Philipson bt Turnbull 6 and 5; C Edwards bt Farmer 2 and 1; Rowe beat Kelly 5 and 4. Blackey bt Fox 3 and 2

LAHINCH, Ireland: Women's home amateur internationals. Wales 2½ Ireland 6½. England 6½ Scotland 2½

ICE HOCKEY

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Group A: Newcastle Cobras 5 Sheffield Steelers 3. Group B: Peterborough Pirates 3 Cardiff Devils 11. Slough Jets 2 Nottingham Panthers 9.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Douai Festival: Chesterman Cup: Final: RGS, High Wycombe 6 Colston's 0. Old Dowegian Shield: Final: St Edward's, Oxford 15 Harrow 12. Other match: Bedford 26 Oakham 11

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Bradford 45 Coventry 45, Poole 58 Peterborough 32; King's Lynn 42 Swindon 48

PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull 49 Oxford 41. Long Eaton 55 Sheffield 35

AMATEUR LEAGUE: St Austell 40 Mildenhall 38

BRADFORD: Golden Gauntlet match race: M Loram (Bradford) bt G Hancock (Coventry, holder)

TENNIS

BOURNEMOUTH: Men's tournament: Second round: D Scala (It) bt O Delaître (Fr) 7-6, 6-1. L Arnold (Arg) bt J van Herck (Bel) 6-1, 7-5; G Rusedski (GB) bt R Fromberg (Aus) 7-6, 7-6

MARBELLA: Men's tournament: Second round: K Alami (Mor) bt M Craca (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. D Hrbaty (Slovakia) bt A Clement (Fr) 6-4, 6-4; F Roig (Sp) bt A Portas (Sp) 6-4, 6-3. G Blanco (Sp) bt A Alvarez (Sp) 6-4, 6-4. A Gaudenzi (It) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 6-2. A Berasategui (Sp) bt T Nydahl (Swe) 4-6, 7-5, 6-1

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

2.20 He's Got Wings. 2.55 Star Traveller. 3.25 Torch Vert. 4.00 Yubralee. 4.30 Infamous. 5.05 Eric's Bett.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.20 NEW STREET NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,495: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1	11	MARSAYAS 9 (F,S) F Jordan 4-11-8	A P McCoy
2	1	DIEGO 17 (G) M Pitman 4-11-1	R Farrant
3	32P4	ALPHA LEATHER 16 (V) L Goszard 6-10-10	R Johnson
4	2/0-	ANTIGUA'S TREASURE 288 A Barrow 6-10-10	Mr O McPhail (7)
5	F-22	BLUE ROSETTE 8 M Sheppard 8-10-10	R Thornton (3)
6	U-	DELOS 193 Mrs M Jones 7-10-10	D Byrne
7	500-	SIERRA NEVADA 239 N Hawke 6-10-10	C Maude
8		*HE'S GOT WINGS 26F M Pell 4-10-8*	*D Bentley*
9	053-	TOBY BROWN 186 (BF) D Nicholson 4-10-8	A Maguire
10	P00/	CAISLEAN EILE 473 Miss C Caroe 7-10-5	I Lawrence
11	0-04	CURTIS THE SECOND 65 C Barwell 4-10-3	B Fenton

2-1 Toby Brown, 3-1 Diego, 4-1 Marsayas, 8-1 Delos, 12-1 He's Got Wings, 14-1 Alpha Leather, 16-1 Blue Rosette, Curtis The Second, 33-1 others.

2.55 COMMERCIAL UNION CLUB ELITE NOVICES CHASE (£3,569: 2m 7f 110yd) (7)

1	11-1	STAR TRAVELLER 77 (G,S) T Forster 6-11-5	S Wynne
2	/P1/	BRAZEN GOLD 532 (F,S) Sir J Barlow Bt 11-11-2	C Maude
3	FF/3	COQ HARDI DANCER 20 (S) Mrs S Smith 7-10-12	R Guest
4	4F34	RELKONI 27 (F) H Manners 10-10-12	S Curran
5	00/3	CAN'T SAY 9 J Bradley 5-10-8	B Fenton
6	FP	LINO 48 A H Harvey 6-10-7	M Richards
7	*6U-3*	*OUR NIKKI 18 P Rodford 7-10-7*	*S Burrough*

8-11 Star Traveller, 4-1 Our Nikki, 6-1 Brazen Gold, 10-1 Relkoni, 14-1 Coq Hardi Dancer, 16-1 Can't Say, 50-1 Lino

3.25 SELLY OAK NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,250: 3m) (8)

1	0251	LIGHTNING QUEST 20 (G) Mrs S Smith 6-12-0	R Guest
2	25F-	GALE AHEAD 135 (D,F,G) G M Moore 7-11-9	M Foster
3	04P-	TORCH VERT 185 (B) M Pipe 5-10-13	A P McCoy
4	-404	PAGE ROYALE 27 (B,G) C Mann 7-10-12	J Magee (3)
5	F/32	ROMALITO 8 M Blanshard 7-10-8	D Gallagher
6	6-14	DAUPHIN BLEU 8 (CD,G,S) J Bradley 11-10-0	Miss V Roberts (7)
7	053-	HI MARBLE 180 (BF,D,S) Mrs M Jones 6-10-0	M Dunne (7)
8	-233	KARICLEIGH BOY 18 (BF,D,F,S) R Frost 9-10-0	T O'Connor (7)

11-4 Torch Vert, 4-1 Lightning Quest, 11-2 Romalito, 6-1 Hi Marble, 7-1 Gale Ahead, Dauphin Bleu, 10-1 Karicleigh Boy, 12-1 Page Royale

4.00 NETWORK ASSET FINANCE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,372: 2m) (6)

1	1111	YUBRALEE 20 (CD,F,G,S) M Pipe 5-11-12	A P McCoy
2	*425-*	*SPANISH LIGHT 202 (D,F,S) Sir J Barlow Bt 8-11-6*	C Maude
3	3-PS	REGAL ROMPER 11 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 9-10-7	R Guest
4	/1-1	CASPIAN BELUGA 27 (CD,F) S Knight 9-10-0	G Upton
5	5PP3	WHO'S TO SAY 16 (D,F,G,S) P Pritchard 11-10-0	Dr P Pritchard
6	3353	HALHAM TARN 8 (D,S) H Manners 7-10-0	A Dowling (7)

4-5 Yubralee, 3-1 Caspian Beluga, 7-1 Regal Romper, 8-1 Spanish Light, 20-1 Who's To Say, Halham Tarn

4.30 MOOR STREET MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,315: 2m) (13)

1	-343	ALAFLAK 16 W Hern 6-11-5	R Farrant
2		BEST KEPT SECRET 35F L Barratt 6-11-5	S Wynne
3	4-	RUDOLPHINE 223F Bob Jones 6-11-5	R Garritty
4	00/F	SEVERN MILL 16 J Bradley 6-11-5	R Johnson
5	30-	SICARIAN 132 Mrs M Jones 5-11-5	D Byrne
6	0-	SOLDIER COVE 18F M Meade 7-11-5	*M Richards*
7	00-	ALARICO 37F I Williams 4-11-3	J Osborne
8	00-	CLAIRE'S DANCER 231 A Turnell 4-11-3	L Harvey
9	0	FABULON 16 (BF) M Pipe 4-11-3	G Supple (5)
10	3F2-	INFAMOUS 185 (BF) R O'Sullivan 4-11-3	A P McCoy
11		JAY-EM-BEE 57F J Bradley 4-11-3	B Fenton
12	004-	SAUCY DANCER 153 J Tuck 4-10-12	R Bellamy
13		WHISPERED MELODY 44F R Akehurst 4-10-12	A Maguire

9-4 Infamous, 4-1 Fabulon, 6-1 Alaflak, 7-1 Whispered Melody, 8-1 Sicarian, 10-1 Alarico, 12-1 Claire's Dancer, 16-1 others

5.05 T C B TRAINING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,425: 2m) (8)

1	-3F1	COOLEY'S VALVE 27 (CD,F) Mrs S Williams 9-12-0	Sophie Mitchell (5)
2	3P-3	JOVIAL MAN 18 (F,S) R O'Sullivan 8-11-13	D O'Sullivan
3	*P12-*	*KING OF SPARTA 149 (BF,D,F) O Sherwood 4-11-10*	J Osborne
4	314-	NISHAMIRA 147 (BF,D,G,S) D Nicholson 5-11-7	A Maguire
5	2112	SHIFTING MOON 8 (F,G) F Jordan 5-11-0	A P McCoy
6	2-11	ERIC'S BETT 18 (D,F) P Murphy 4-10-10	L Aspell (3)
7	6323	TOUCH SILVER 8 (D,S) H Manners 7-10-8	A Dowling (7)
8	013-	GALWAY BOSS 178 (D,G) I Williams 5-10-1	N Williamson

3-1 Nishamira, 7-2 King Of Sparta, 5-1 Cooley's Valve, Eric's Bett, 6-1 Shifting Moon, 8-1 Galway Boss, 12-1 Jovial Man, 20-1 Touch Silver

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: O Sherwood, 17 winners from 50 runners, 34.0%. M Pipe, 46 from 149, 30.9%. D Nicholson, 22 from 81, 27.2%. C Mann, 7 from 30, 23.3%. C Barwell, 6 from 35, 17.1%. M Sheppard, 3 from 19, 15.8%.

JOCKEYS: L Aspell, 4 winners from 13 rides, 30.8%. J Osborne, 30 from 105, 28.6%. A P McCoy, 44 from 155, 28.4%. N Williamson, *23 from 133, 17.3%. R Johnson,* 13 from 77, 16.9%. A Maguire, 24 from 166, 14.5%.

RACING: JOCKEYS' TITLE LEADER PROFITS AS DETTORI GETS THUMBS DOWN

Fallon supplies express service

By Chris McGrath

JULIAN HERBERT / ALLSPORT

Canon Can, right, holds off Further Flight in the Great North Eastern Railway Doncaster Cup yesterday

THE main sponsor at Doncaster yesterday was the Great North Eastern Railway, proudly described as the fastest line in the land. If they want to cut the time from London to Edinburgh still further they should ask Kieren Fallon if he could do a shift in the driver's cab.

The season's leading jockey generated course records in successive races, instilling in Canon Can and Midnight Line some of the confidence and aggression that is giving his championship bid such momentum. It remains, by contrast, a case of leaves on the line for Frankie Dettori, who now trails by 133 winners to 140 — and had to surrender his last ride after hurting his thumb when Noisette stumbled leaving the stalls in the Kyoto Sceptre Stakes. He is expected to resume today.

Fallon gives no quarter, and was certainly not prey to any unnecessary sentiment as Canon Can humbled two of the most popular Flat horses of recent years in the GNER Doncaster Cup. Double Trigger, who so labours in the lead, always looks like he is on the point of surrender — but those who sent him off at odds-on know that he always finds extra.

This time, however, it really was the white flag. Harried by Canon Can, he folded quickly in the straight as Persian Punch and the other great public favourite, Further Flight, went in fruitless pursuit. "I thought I'd go and annoy him, be a thorn in his side," Fallon said. "That's the only way to get him beaten."

Perhaps Double Trigger is just becoming obsessed by his image. Michael Roberts, his rider, protested to the stewards that his mount was distracted by the Channel 4 tracking camera, which was being driven alongside the rails. But the South African also admitted that he was "never stretching out" like he can, and the course vet subsequently found Double Trigger to have an abnormally low heart-rate.

The winner has an abnormally big heart, and he will need it, too, when he carries ten stone in the Tote Cesarewitch — in which he was beaten two necks under 7st 13lb last year. "He was a weak horse then," Fallon said. "He has got a lot stronger since, and will be better again next year." William Hill offers 10-1 (from 20-1) against the new favourite.

Canon Can was a seventh Doncaster Cup winner for Henry Cecil, Fallon's employer and evidently a man in helpful form for the autumn. Cecil's status in turf history, as one of the great modern trainers, has long been safely assured. But Midnight Line's success, his eleventh in the May Hill Stakes, provided a further reminder of his genius — and particular deftness with fillies.

Having won a desperately close verdict at Goodwood last time, Midnight Line collared Flawless, who wavered as her relative inexperience told, by half a length. But Cecil said: "She was looking around in the first half of the race, being on the outside, and she is still a bit of a baby. Once they straightened up, she started to race and showed herself to be very tough and genuine."

The day's third group three race was also won by a multiple champion trainer. Kamil Mahdi, who plied his trade with great success in his native Kuwait for 25 years, has been trying his luck in Newmarket since May and enjoyed a third win when Almushtarak, unlucky on numerous occasions this season, finally got all the breaks in the Britain's Fastest Railway Park Stakes.

☐ The Godolphin-owned Swain, quoted at 4-1 for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp next month by William Hill, runs in the Doubleprint Arc Trial at Newbury next Thursday.

Daggers Drawn has pace to provide cutting edge

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

DONCASTER CHANNEL 4

2.05: Musalsal can overcome a 97-day absence since running in the Derby. He had previously been a good third to Benny The Dip in the Dante Stakes and that form reads better than anything else on offer. Faithful Son looked potentially smart when winning his first two starts this term, but disappointed at Goodwood last time. However, today's longer trip and fast ground should be in his favour and he is the principal threat.

2.35: Multicoloured has not run since finishing a good second to Sasuru in the Gordon Richards Stakes in April. A reproduction of that form would give him a sound chance. Memorise was unlucky not to win at Goodwood last time and the form was boosted at Epsom last week when the winner, Maylane, won the September Stakes. However, I just prefer **Busy Flight**, who won this race last year and is reported to be in top form. The four-year-old showed his well-being when winning at Newbury last month and his front-running tactics can pay in this small field.

3.05: The form of Saratoga Springs' comfortable victory in the Acomb Stakes at York has been boosted by the subsequent success of the fourth, Teapot Row, and if Mutawwaj wins the opener here confidence will grow in Aiden O'Brien's raider. The Irish runner has arguably achieved more than **Daggers Drawn**, but Henry Cecil's best juvenile looks open to considerable improvement. Unbeaten in two starts, he impressed when landing the Richmond Stakes, travelling well during the race and quickening decisively. Today's exta furlong will suit. Carrowkeel beat Bold Fact in the Gimcrack Stakes and is another who will appreciate today's longer trip.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FERNY HILL
(3.35 Doncaster)
Next best: Almutawakel
(2.40 Goodwood)

3.35: Ferny Hill has improved with every run and opened his account at Newcastle last time when staying on well over today's trip. He had previously been a creditable second to Captain Scott and the form looks solid. Docklands Limo led two furlongs out in the Ebor Handicap at York and a return to the distance at which he won the Ulster Derby will help.

GOODWOOD BBC2

2.40: Almutawakel, to be ridden by Frankie Dettori, is just preferred to Alboostan. The unbeaten Godolphin runner was not hard pressed to beat Mijana, the emphatic winner of a listed race at Kempton on Wednesday, and a form line involving Due South suggests the Machiavellian colt should come out on top.

3.10: Mashhaer looks fairly treated for his handicap debut after showing respectable form in conditions events this term and is well drawn for Richard Quinn. Mihriz scored with ease at Salisbury five weeks ago but that was on easier ground. If the ground remains fast, **Present Situation** still looks on the right side of the handicapper after winning well at Epsom 18 days ago. The six-year-old runs well at this track and should not be inconvenienced by this slightly longer trip.

3.40: Mamalik, runner-up to Starborough in the Prix Jean Prat at Chantilly has not raced since disappointing in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot, but would have every chance if bouncing back to his best after an 87-day absence. However, **Kahal** looks a safer proposition after a good effort to finish fourth in a group one race in France a month ago. Latalomne and Egoli will have to improve to trouble the principals.

Richard Evans

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.30 Prolix
2.05 Faithful Son
2.35 Memorise
3.05 **SARATOGA SPRINGS** (nap)
3.35 Celestial Choir
4.10 Cross The Border
4.40 Revoque

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.35 **DOCKLANDS LIMO** (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 5F-1M STR, HIGH NUMBERS BEST — SIS

1.30 AMCO CORPORATION MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O: £3,200: 1m str) (8 runners)

101	(7)	4	CITY HONOURS 28 (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	J Reid	104
102	(6)		DOUBLE BLADE (2nd Middleham Partnership) M Johnston 9-0	M Roberts	—
103	(8)	35	JONAS NIGHTENGALE 18 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 9-0	K Fallon	80
104	(4)		KAHTAN (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 9-0	Pat Eddery	—
105	(1)	32	MUTAWWAJ 24 (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-0	R Hills	111
106	(3)	2	PROLIX 27 (K Abdulla) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	95
107	(5)	0	HOLY SMOKE 20 (Lady Green) J Eyre 8-9	O Pears	—
108	(2)		SHANTUNG (K & B Wetherell) K McAuliffe 8-9	S Sanders	—

BETTING: 2-1 Mutawwaj, 5-2 City Honours, 3-1 Prolix, 6-1 Kahtan, 16-1 Double Blade, 20-1 others.

1996: CAPE CROSS 9-0 L Dettori (3-1) J Gosden 10 ran

2.05 RJB MINING CONDITIONS STAKES

C4

(£7,020: 1m 2f 60yd) (5 runners)

201	(2)	1125	FAITHFUL SON 41 (BF,G,S) (M al-Maktoum) M Stoute 3-9-1	J Reid	116
202	(5)	51-130	MUSALSAL 97 (C,F,G) (M al-Maktoum) B Hills 3-8-13	M Hills	104
203	(1)	2-2110	ALEZAL 87 (S) (H Spooner) W Jarvis 3-8-9	S Sanders	99
204	(4)	12-4203	YAVLENSKY 75 (S) (V Schwone) J Dunlop 3-8-9	J Weaver	99
205	(3)	1-5	FASCINATING RHYTHM 55 (BF,G) (H Springfield Ltd) H Cecil 3-8-4	W Ryan	89+

BETTING: 9-4 Fascinating Rhythm, 11-4 Faithful Son, 7-2 Musalsal, 9-2 Alezal, 7-1 Yavlensky

1996: FOREST BUCK 3-8-9 A McGlone (10-1) H Cecil 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Faithful Son 4¾l 5th to Cape Cross in 1m Goodwood stakes (good to firm). Musalsal 20l 8th to Benny The Dip in 1½m Epsom group I Derby (good). Yavlensky 4l 3rd to Jaunty Jack in 1¼m San Siro listed stakes (heavy). Fascinating Rhythm 16l 5th to Anno Luce in 1½m Newmarket listed stakes (good to firm)

FAITHFUL SON has the best form and will relish this galloping track

2.35 O & K TROY STAKES

C4

(Listed race: £10,937: 1m 4f) (5 runners)

301	(5)	000-666	BAHAMIAN KNIGHT 7 (B,D,F) (Lucayan Stud) R Akehurst 4-9-1	Pat Eddery	—
302	(1)	11-2301	BUSY FLIGHT 38 (CD,F,G) (S Wingfield Digby) B Hills 4-9-1	M Hills	114
303	(2)	364050	KEY TO MY HEART 13 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Pickering) Miss S Hall 7-9-1	J Weaver	111
304	(4)	2212-2	MULTICOLOURED 139 (G) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 4-9-1	J Reid	101
305	(3)	414102	MEMORISE 44 (BF,G) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 3-8-6	K Fallon	112

BETTING: 7-4 Multicoloured, 9-4 Memorise, 3-1 Busy Flight, 6-1 Key To My Heart, 20-1 Bahamian Knight

1996: BUSY FLIGHT 3-8-6 M Hills (5-1) B Hills 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Busy Flight beat Yorkshire 1l in 1½m Newbury stakes (good to firm). Key To My Heart 47l 8th to Further Flight in 1m5f Chester handicap (soft). Multicoloured 2½l 2nd to Sasuru in 1¼m Sandown group III stakes (good to soft). Memorise ½l 2nd to Maylane in 1½m Goodwood handicap (good to firm).

MEMORISE is fast improving and his second to Maylane looks smart form

3.05 LAURENT-PERRIER ROSE CHAMPAGNE STAKES

C4

(Group II: 2-Y-O: £54,912: 7f) (5 runners)

401	(5)	141	CARROWKEEL 23 (G,S) (Sheikh M al-Maktoum) B Hills 9-0	Pat Eddery	116
402	(4)	11	DAGGERS DRAWN 43 (F,G) (Cliveden Stud) H Cecil 9-0	K Fallon	125
403	(1)	512	DOCKSIDER 44 (D,F) (F Bienstock) J Hills 8-10	M Hills	113
404	(2)	3121	SARATOGA SPRINGS 34 (V,D,G) (M Tabor) A P O'Brien (Ire) 8-10	M J Kinane	131
405	(3)	02244	STONE OF DESTINY 7 (B) (P Heath) B Meehan 8-10	K Darley	105

BETTING: 4-5 Daggers Drawn, 3-1 Saratoga Springs, 4-1 Carrowkeel, 12-1 Docksider, 33-1 Stone Of Destiny

1996: BAHHARE 8-10 W Carson (4-6 fav) J Dunlop 4 ran

FORM FOCUS Carrowkeel beat Bold Fact ¾l in 6f York group II stakes (good). Daggers Drawn beat Lord Kintyre 1½l in 6f Goodwood group II stakes (good to firm). Docksider 3l 2nd to Central Park in 7f Goodwood group III stakes (good to firm). Saratoga Springs beat Chester House 5l in 7f York stakes (good). Stone Of Destiny 4¾l 4th to Name Of Love in 7f Epsom maiden stakes (good)

SARATOGA SPRINGS has more solid form than Daggers Drawn and gets a handy 4lb

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

3.35 JOY UK HANDICAP (£4,800: 1m 4f) (16 runners)

C4

501	(10)	03-5005	WAHIBA SANDS 48 (BF,C,F) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 4-9-10	M J Kinane	98
502	(11)	2603010	CELESTIAL CHOIR 22 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Sykes) J Eyre 7-9-6	O Pears	108
503	(4)	0-21500	SOLO MIO 24 (S) (W Said) B Hills 3-9-4	Pat Eddery	94
504	(12)	222115	DANTESQUE 22 (BF,F,G) (Mollers Racing) G Wragg 4-9-3	G Milligan (5)	99
505	(2)	01-3644	KRIS GREEN 74 (G) (Stonethorn Stud Farms Ltd) R Hannon 3-9-3	K Darley	91
506	(8)	0030310	DOCKLANDS LIMO 23 (D,F,G) (Mrs L Otley) B McMath 4-9-2	M Roberts	104
507	(7)	0235536	REMAADI SUN 7 (D,F) (T Barker) M Usher 5-9-1	R Street	111
508	(3)	030-500	TIME FOR ACTION 20 (D,F,G) (Mrs G Smith) M Tompkins 5-8-10	J Weaver	109
509	(5)	6022460	MY LEARNED FRIEND 22 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Roberts) A Hide 6-8-7	R Mullen (5)	108
510	(13)	3-44412	ELBAAHA 23 (F) (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) M Jarvis 3-8-7	R Cochrane	96
511	(9)	01-1210	STEAMROLLER STANLY 21 (D,F) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-8-7	M Fenton	90
512	(6)	0005130	MAGIC COMBINATION 45 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 4-8-7	J Quinn	94
513	(14)	424-21	FERNY HILL 40 (D,F) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Prescott 3-8-7	S Sanders	86+
514	(15)	62-5518	CATCHABLE 64 (D,G) (Lord H De Walden) H Cecil 3-8-7	K Fallon	102
515	(16)	1141344	PINCHINCHA 33 (C,F,S) (T Wells) D Morris 3-8-5	N Day	95
516	(1)	3160/0/	GOLDEN HELLO 128J (D,F,G) (G Shouler) T Easterby 6-8-4	L Charnock	—

BETTING: 5-1 Ferny Hill, 6-1 Dantesque, 7-1 Docklands Limo, 8-1 Elbaaha, Pinchincha, 10-1 Wahiba Sands, Catchable, 12-1 others.

1996: SPILLO 3-8-11 K Darley (5-1) L Cumani 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Wahiba Sands 8¾l 5th to Present Arms in 1¼m Ascot handicap (soft). Solo Mio 40l 8th to Sausalito Bay in 1¾m York handicap (good). Dantesque 7l 5th to Honourable in 1½m York handicap (good) with My Learned Friend (3lb better off) 13l 9th and Celestial Choir (levels) 20l 12th. Kris Green 22l last of 4 to Sublime Beauty in 1¼m Limerick stakes (firm). Docklands Limo 5¾l 7th to Far Ahead in 1¾m York handicap (good). Remaadi Sun 6¼l 6th to Dance So Suite in 1½m Epsom handicap (good). Elbaaha neck 2nd to Debutante Days in 1½m Leicester fillies handicap (1m 3f 183yd, good). Steamroller Stanly 15l 7th to Mengaab in 1½m Goodwood handicap (good to firm). Magic Combination 13l 9th to Media Star in 1¾m Goodwood handicap (good to firm). Ferny Hill beat Wild Rita ½l in 1½m Newcastle stakes (good to firm). Catchable 12l 6th to Three Cheers in 1m6½l Newmarket listed stakes (good). Pinchincha 5¼l 4th to Dantesque (6lb worse off) in 1¼m Yarmouth limited stakes (good to firm).

FERNY HILL is the least exposed runner and comes from a yard in good form

4.10 FENNER CONVEYOR BELTING HANDICAP

(£3,200: 5f) (22 runners)

601	(15)	0260051	LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 8 (CD,F,G,S) (Elite RC) M H-Ellis 9-10-2 (7ex)	S Drowne	89
602	(2)	1052560	DAAWE 24 (V,C,D,F,G) (Mrs A Mallinson) J Glover 6-9-12	J Reid	86
603	(1)	1100002	WHITE EMIR 18 (B,D,F,G,S) (Three Bears Racing) B Meehan 4-9-11	Pat Eddery	81
604	(4)	1161131	CROSS THE BORDER 15 (CD,F,G) (P Savill) D Nicholls 4-9-10	Alex Greaves	85
605	(18)	1430100	MALIBU MAN 13 (D,F,G) (Church Racing Ptnrs) E Wheeler 5-9-9	S Carson (7)	83
606	(21)	4601103	PURPLE FLING 13 (C,F,G,S) (Miss N Thesiger) D Chapman 6-9-9	A Culhane	88
607	(10)	3143412	SHALSTAYHOLY 23 (D,F,G) (J B R Leisure Ltd) G L Moore 3-9-7	K Fallon	86
608	(22)	3-10106	NIFTY NORMAN 32 (D,G,S) (Mrs N Peebles) J Berry 3-9-6	T E Durcan (3)	79
609	(8)	1204401	TEAR WHITE 42 (D,F) (A Lawson & Co Ltd) T Mills 3-9-4	J Quinn	73
610	(14)	5225224	TUSCAN DAWN 13 (BF,D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Deuters) J Berry 7-9-3	P Roberts (5)	81
611	(19)	1440020	THE HAPPY FOX 20 (B,D,F) (G Whitaker) B McMahon 5-8-13	M Roberts	80
612	(12)	5410003	SWAN AT WHALLEY 13 (CD,G,S) (Mrs C Barlow) R Fahey 5-8-13	R Winston (7)	76
613	(16)	0-10302	PLEASURE TIME 23 (D,F,G) (A Needham) C Smith 4-8-11	J Tate	74
614	(6)	100603	PRINCELY SOUND 21 (D,G) (Mrs M Byrne) J Banks 4-8-11	C Lowther (5)	75
615	(17)	1242054	BARRANAK 14 (D,F,G) (M MacCarthy) G McCourt 5-8-10	J Weaver	73
616	(7)	3222431	ARCHELLO 27 (D,F) (E Gale) G Oldroyd 3-8-9	K Darley	86
617	(9)	4004000	BOLLIN HARRY 26 (D,F,G) (Sir Neil Westbrook) T Easterby 5-8-8	J Carroll	78
618	(13)	1250500	SHADOW JURY 16 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Chapman) D Chapman 7-8-7	L Charnock	77
619	(11)	0210033	THE WAD 18 (F,G) (W Kelly) D Nicholls 4-8-6	Iona Wands (5)	71
620	(3)	5200400	POLLY GOLIGHTLY 16 (B,CD,F) (D Sykes) M Blanshard 4-8-6	N Adams	78
621	(5)	0404000	JUST BOB 24 (D,F,G,S) (J Fotherby) S Kettlewell 8-8-5	Dean McKeown	74
622	(20)	6454130	STORYTELLER 18 (V,BF,CD,G) (P Green) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-4	M Fenton	75

BETTING: 7-1 Cross The Border, 8-1 Lord High Admiral, 10-1 Shalstayholy, Tuscan Dawn, The Happy Fox, 12-1 White Emir, Purple Fling, Swan At Whalley, The Wad, 14-1 others.

1996: SURPRISE MISSION 4-9-5 A Culhane (14-1) Mrs J Ramsden 21 ran

4.40 SUN PRINCESS LJF CHALLENGE TROPHY CONDITIONS STAKES

(3-Y-O: £4,950: 1m rnd) (3 runners)

1	(1)	111-	BAHHARE 364 (C,F,G) (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-11	R Hills	119
2	(2)	331-030	KUMAIT 22 (G) (M al-Maktoum) D Loder 8-11	K Fallon	101
3	(3)	111-226	REVOQUE 110 (BF,D,F,G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	140

BETTING: 4-6 Revoque, 11-8 Bahhare, 16-1 Kumait.

1996: KAMMTARRA 9-0 L Dettori (7-2) S bin Suroor 9 ran

GOODWOOD

THUNDERER

2.10 Mukhlles
2.40 Almutawakel
3.10 Zoom Up
3.40 Kahal
4.15 Jungle Story
4.50 Aerleon Pete
5.20 Iceband

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.10 **PRESENT SITUATION.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.40 Almutawakel. 5.20 Iceband.

GOING: GOOD — DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.10 EYDON HALL FARM MACMILLAN NURSES HANDICAP

(£4,565: 1m) (22 runners)

1	(8)	61-0000	FILIAL 13 (B,F) (Miss J Semple) B Meehan 4-9-12	M Tebbutt	75
2	(6)	000005	KNOBBLEENEEZE 8 (V,C,D,F,G,S) (A Andrews) M Channon 7-9-10	J Fortune	72
3	(7)	0016606	WHATEVER'S RIGHT 15 (BF,D,F,G) (M Thurgood) M Usher 8-9-10	R Perham	71
4	(16)	0/02000	DESERT TIME 16 (CD,F,G) (Spool Racing) C Horgan 7-9-9	Paul Eddery	63
5	(1)	-065601	FIONN DE COOL 33 (D,F,G) (Canisbay Bloodstock Ltd) R Akehurst 6-9-9	T Quinn	64
6	(17)	-400403	MUKHLLES 31 (Armorex Ltd And Mr C Montucolombi) Bob Jones 4-9-8	G Carter	73
7	(9)	06-205	QUIBBLING 32 (T Frost) H Candy 3-9-5	C Rutter	62
8	(12)	4/5/5	WITCHFINDER 13 (R P Johns) Mrs L Stubbs 5-9-4	T Williams	51
9	(5)	01-600	ZIMIRI 27 (D) (Rannerdale, D & N Fraser) J Toller 3-9-4	N Carlisle	50
10	(15)	1105450	CA'D'ORO 8 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 4-9-3	P P Murphy (3)	67
11	(19)	0430131	GOLD LANCE 32 (D,F) (Mrs B Merchant) R O'Sullivan 4-9-1	L Dettori	69
12	(10)	-000600	SOVEREIGNS COURT 35 (V) (E Gadsden) L Cottrell 4-9-1	D Holland	71
13	(14)	2601130	CHASETOWN FLYER 8 (D,F,G) (D Smith) N Berry 3-9-1	G Hind	67
14	(21)	00-40	SWINGING THE BLUES 13 (Fairy Story Partnership) R Akehurst 3-9-0	A Clark	—
15	(18)	-050333	CHAIRMANS CHOICE 43 (D,F) (Mrs D Brazier) A Jarvis 7-9-0	W Ryan	73
16	(11)	0203422	MY BELOVED 28 (BF,F) (P Hammond) R Hannon 3-8-13	Dane O'Neill	69
17	(3)	-005314	PENLOP 119 (BF,D) (C Ranson) A Stewart 3-8-13	G Duffield	58
18	(2)	0000543	ZURS 37 (BF,D) (N Dearman) J Poulton 4-8-13	Martin Dwyer	72
19	(13)	4030000	PIQUANT 20 (D,F,G,S) (Lord Huntingdon) Lord Huntingdon 10-8-12	Aimee Cook (5)	66
20	(4)	0465604	SUPERIOR FORCE 20 (V,D,F) (Copyforce Ltd) Miss B Sanders 4-8-11	A Whelan (3)	68
21	(22)	0300451	STEP ON DEGAS 28 (F) (Degas Ptnrs) M F-Godley 4-8-11	R Ffrench (3)	66
22	(20)	5001503	HAWAII STORM 9 (D,F,S) (C Capel) D Ffrench Davis 9-8-7	P McCabe (3)	64

BETTING: 6-1 Fionn De Cool, 7-1 Gold Lance, 8-1 Ca'd'oro, 10-1 Whatever's Right, 12-1 Penlop, Step On Degas, 14-1 Knobbleeneeze, Mukhlles, My Beloved, Zurs, 16-1 others

1996: ASHBY HILL 5-9-7 G Carter (7-1 jt-fav) R Rowe 20 ran

2.40 BELLWAY HOMES STARDOM STAKES

BBC2

(Listed race. 2-Y-O: £13,248: 1m) (5 runners)

1	(2)	12	ALBOOSTAN 23 (G) (H al-Maktoum) D Morley 8-11	G Carter	101
2	(1)	11	ALMUTAWAKEL 41 (G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-11	L Dettori	102
3	(4)	343311	PICHON BARON 19 (D,G) (A Reid) B Meehan 8-11	M Tebbutt	—
4	(3)	15	PRICELESS 23 (F) (Sun Punters Club) W Haggas 8-11	J Fortune	94
5	(5)	0413	DUE SOUTH 18 (G) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-6	T Quinn	118

BETTING: 1-2 Almutawakel, 5-1 Alboostan, 6-1 Due South, 10-1 Priceless, 20-1 Pichon Baron

1996: FALKENHAM 8-11 T Quinn (8-11 fav) P Cole 5 ran

FORM FOCUS Alboostan neck 2nd to Mowbray in 7f Kempton stakes (good) with Priceless (same terms) 2l 5th. Almutawakel beat Mijana 2l in 7f Newmarket stakes (good). Pichon Baron beat Little Badboy sh hd in 1m Deauville claimer (good). Due South ¾l 3rd to Bobbydazzle in 1m Newcastle nursery (good)

ALMUTAWAKEL has a clear-cut opportunity

3.10 SCHRODER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT HANDICAP (£15,068: 1m 1f) (20 runners)

BBC2

1	(8)	3101102	DANISH RHAPSODY 7 (C,F) (C Hardy) Lady Herries 4-10-0	W Ryan	98
2	(12)	-131150	BARBA PAPA 42 (D,F,G,S) (Dr M Bolla) L Cumani 3-9-10	L Dettori	99
3	(5)	-042001	CONSPICUOUS 22 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Hopkins) L Cottrell 7-9-7	A Daly (5)	99
4	(19)	-100046	CALYPSO GRANT 22 (G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 3-9-6	G Bardwell	103
5	(10)	3610656	KING OF TUNES 20 (G,S) (Mrs E Sheehan) M Haynes 5-9-2	J Fortune	102
6	(16)	1-23	MASHHAER 22 (BF,F) (H al-Maktoum) M Stoute 3-9-1	T Quinn	94
7	(9)	6231530	SHARP SHUFFLE 13 (C,F,G) (Mrs H Prendergast) R Hannon 4-8-13	Dane O'Neill	105
8	(18)	01-1	MIRACLE KID 176 (F) (L Lo) J Gosden 3-8-13	G Hind	86+
9	(6)	3214030	ORSAY 20 (G,S) (D Deer) W Muir 5-8-13	J Stack	102
10	(20)	-112600	STRATHMORE CLEAR 43 (F) (Food Brokers Ltd) G Lewis 3-8-12	Paul Eddery	94
11	(4)	1-06230	KOATHARY 48 (CD,F,S) (E Gadsden) L Cottrell 6-8-11	D Holland	99
12	(15)	01-0350	ATTITUDE 14 (F) (Girsonfield Ltd) H Candy 3-8-11	C Rutter	96
13	(13)	/20240F	VIRTUAL REALITY 33 (F) (Ash Partnership) J Toller 6-8-10	T Williams	107
14	(17)	314260	ZOOM UP 14 (G) (K Maeda) M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-9	G Carter	88
15	(7)	0043-65	THE IN-LAWS 44 (F) (G Waters) M Prescott 3-8-8	G Duffield	89
16	(11)	000-301	MIHRIZ 35 (F,S) (Normandy Developments (London)) R Akehurst 5-8-3	A Clark	88
17	(3)	0515613	BRANDON JACK 14 (CD,F,S) (R Michaelson) I Balding 3-8-2	J F Egan	94
18	(2)	0051043	CONTENTMENT 29 (G) (C Nelson) J Hills 3-8-0	M Henry (3)	101
19	(14)	10-1041	PRESENT SITUATION 18 (C,D,F,S) Lord Huntingdon 6-7-13	Aimee Cook (5)	108
20	(1)	3453103	TRIBAL PEACE 20 (CD,F,S) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 5-7-10	R Ffrench (3)	101

BETTING: 5-1 Mihriz, 13-2 Danish Rhapsody, 8-1 Mashhaer, 10-1 Conspicuous, Brandon Jack, 12-1 Miracle Kid, Contentment, 14-1 others

1996: AUTUMN COVER 4-8-0 D Biggs (25-1) P Hedger 17 ran

FORM FOCUS Danish Rhapsody 2½l 2nd to Sandmoor Chambray in 1¼m Epsom handicap (good). Conspicuous beat Orange Place 3l in 1m Salisbury handicap (good to firm). Calypso Grant 3¾l 4th to Future Perfect in 1¼m handicap here (good to firm) with Barba Papa (3lb better off) 5l away 10th. King Of Tunes 3½l 6th to Labeq in 1¼m Newmarket handicap (good to firm) with Orsay (1lb worse off) 16l 11th. Mashhaer 2¼l 3rd to Showboat in 1m Salisbury stakes (good to firm). Miracle Kid beat Love Has No Pride 3l in 1¼m Doncaster handicap (good to firm). Attitude 7¼l 8th to Shawm in 1m Sandown handicap (good to soft) with Zoom Up (same terms) ½l 9th. The In-Laws 8¾l 5th to Right Tune in 1m Doncaster handicap (good). Mihriz beat Yalta 5l in 1m Salisbury handicap (good to soft). Brandon Jack 6l 3rd to Yabint El Sultan in 1¼m Chester handicap (good to soft). Present Situation beat La Modiste 1¼l in 1m Epsom handicap (good to soft).

MIRACLE KID could still be ahead of the handicapper

3.40 THEO FENNELL CONDITIONS STAKES

BBC2

(3-Y-O: £7,154: 7f) (4 runners)

1	(1)	15	LATALOMNE 140 (F) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-1	T Quinn	96
2	(2)	120	MAMALIK 87 (G) (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 9-1	G Hind	94
3	(3)	215-244	KAHAL 33 (BF,D,F) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-12	L Dettori	115
4	(4)	10	EGOLI 13 (D,F) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-10	D Holland	75

BETTING: 11-10 Kahal, 11-8 Mamalik, 13-2 Latalomne, 14-1 Egoli

1996: POLAR PRINCE 9-5 R Cochrane (5-2) M Jarvis 8 ran

FORM FOCUS Latalomne 7l 5th to Romanov in 1m Sandown stakes (good), previously beat Shawm 2l in 1m Nottingham maiden (good to firm). Mamalik 30l last of 8 to Starborough in 1m group I stakes at Ascot (good to firm); previously 1½l 2nd to Starborough in group I Chantilly stakes (good). Kahal 2¾l 4th to Occupandiste in group I Deauville stakes (good)

KAHAL is narrowly preferred to Mamalik

4.15 TATTERSALLS AUCTION NURSERY HANDICAP

(2-Y-O: £4,110: 7f) (10 runners)

1	(5)	1306	VICE PRESIDENTIAL 13 (S) (P Savill) T Etherington 9-7	L Dettori	70
2	(10)	1536	ALFIGLIA 35 (B,G) (Bakewell Bloodstock Ltd) P Makin 9-6	J Fortune	95
3	(2)	0051	ROI DE DANSE 23 (G) (A Miller) J Hills 9-0	M Henry (3)	76
4	(1)	1352204	WHO NOSE 7 (B,F,G) (Abbott Racing Ltd) B Meehan 8-6	M Tebbutt	83
5	(9)	0045	WATER FORCE 42 (B Attenborough) G Balding 8-6	P P Murphy (3)	84
6	(3)	020	TITAN 22 (J & S Kelly) S Dow 8-6	J F Egan	82
7	(6)	645	JUNGLE STORY 22 (Major & Mrs Kennard & Partners) P Walwyn 8-1	J Lowe	90
8	(7)	60000	SERGEANT IMP 10 (W Mann) P Mitchell 7-11	R Ffrench (3)	81
9	(4)	04024	FLAME TOWER 62 (Mahmood Al-Shuaibi) R Hannon 7-10	Martin Dwyer	92
10	(8)	224	LITTLE TUMBLER 38 (BF) (Mrs W Edgar) S Woodman 7-10	A Polli (5)	86

Long handicap: Flame Tower 7-8, Little Tumbler 7-0.

BETTING: 4-1 Vice Presidential, 9-2 Flame Tower, 5-1 Roi de Danse, 6-1 Water Force, 7-1 Who Nose, 8-1 others

1996: BRANDON JACK 9-3 R Cochrane (7-1) I Balding 10 ran

4.50 TILNEY PORTFOLIO LIMITED STAKES

(£3,720: 1m 4f) (7 runners)

1	(6)	21-0014	FARMOST 34 (F,S) (W Stott) M Prescott 4-9-7	G Duffield	90
2	(3)	0004341	GRAND SPLENDOUR 22 (F) (A Holder) Lady Herries 4-9-4	A Clark	85
3	(2)	3-60021	AERLEON PETE 25 (F) (P Locke) M Stoute 3-8-12	D Holland	87
4	(4)	04531	AZORES 14 (S) (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 3-8-12	T Quinn	91
5	(1)	4435301	PENNYS FROM HEAVEN 31 (D,G) (F Salman) H Candy 3-8-12	C Rutter	86
6	(5)	5-44510	AGONY AUNT 13 (F) (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) Mrs J Cecil 3-8-9	G Hind	79
7	(7)	33-53	LEADING NOTE 58 (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 3-8-7	L Dettori	84

BETTING: 3-1 Aerleon Pete, 4-1 Pennys From Heaven, Leading Note, 6-1 Grand Splendour, 7-1 others.

1996: WILLIE CONQUER 4-9-7 T Quinn (9-4 jt-fav) R Akehurst 5 ran

5.20 EBF CUCUMBER MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O: £5,301: 6f) (14 runners)

1	(5)	3	ASYAAD 30 (S Bel Obaida) B Hills 9-0	G Carter	—
2	(13)	04	CHIEF WHIP 21 (M Kerr-Dineen) L Cumani 9-0	R Ffrench (3)	71
3	(10)		DILKUSHA (T Painting) B Meehan 9-0	M Tebbutt	—
4	(7)	2	ICEBAND 55 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	105
5	(1)	52	MANTLES PRIDE 23 (D Barker) G Lewis 9-0	Paul Eddery	84
6	(14)		MASHA-IL (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 9-0	G Hind	—
7	(2)	5	ORSINO 30 (Mrs Jackie Gittins) S Dow 9-0	J F Egan	—
8	(6)	23	SABHAAN 44 (H al-Maktoum) W Hern 9-0	D Holland	91
9	(8)	6	SACCHETTI 161 (A Tuckerman) M Channon 9-0	J Fortune	67
10	(4)	0046	SECOND SUN 18 (Mrs J Stamp) J Bridger 9-0	M Wigham	—
11	(9)		SEVEN (Smart Set) B Smart 9-0	J Stack	—
12	(12)	0222	STORM FROMTHE EAST 21 (N Hayes) R Hannon 9-0	Dane O'Neill	80
13	(11)	0	THOMAS O'MALLEY 57 (C Washbourn) R O'Sullivan 9-0	A Procter	—
14	(3)		TITLE BID (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0	T Quinn	—

BETTING: 2-1 Iceband, 9-2 Title Bid, 6-1 Storm Fromthe East, 7-1 Mantles Pride, Sabhaan, 8-1 others

1996: HURRICANE STATE 9-0 R Havlin (6-4 fav) P Chapple-Hyam 14 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
E Dunlop	8	29	27.6	R Ffrench	3	16	18.8
S bin Suroor	7	28	25.0	L Dettori	36	203	17.7
M Stoute	24	96	25.0	T Quinn	45	281	16.0
G Wragg	9	40	22.5	Dane O'Neill	13	108	12.0
P Cole	28	137	20.4	M Henry	7	59	11.9
J Gosden	25	134	18.7	W Ryan	11	104	10.6

DONCASTER SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S bin Suroor, 8 winners from 28 runners, 28.6%; H Cecil, 22 from 97, 22.7%; G Wragg, 11 from 50, 22.0%; B Hills, 33 from 166, 19.9%; J Dunlop, 27 from 138, 19.6%; M Stoute, 18 from 97, 18.6%; D Loder, 9 from 51, 17.6%. JOCKEYS: M Hills, 31 winners from 169 rides, 18.3%; R Hills, 14 from 84, 16.7%; W Ryan, 21 from 141, 14.9%; S Sanders, 7 from 49, 14.3%; Pat Eddery, 23 from 166, 13.9%; K Darley, 35 from 262, 13.4%; K Fallon, 28 from 213, 13.1%

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RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Doncaster

Going: good to firm

2.05 (1m) 1, LEND A HAND (J Weaver, 8-1); 2, Rabah (R Hills, 12-1); 3, The Glow-Worm (Pat Eddery, 14-1); 4, Kim's Brave (K Darley, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 fav Monsajem (5th), 8 After The Rain, 9 Royal Bounty, 12 Tarashaan, 14 Bobbydazzle, Chinaider (6th), Saddlers' Rose, Tensile, 16 Balaclava, Navasky, 20 Balance The Books, Buzz, 25 Night Flyer, Panama House, 33 Narrogin, Praetorian Gold, 50 Lady Yavanna. 21 ran. NR: Legend of Love, Mowbray, Take A Turn. 1½l, 2½l, 1½l, 1½l, 1¼l. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £6.30; £1.60, £3.50, £3.40, £10.30. DF: £48.20. Trio: £324.30. CSF: £93.65. Tricast: £1,260.69.

2.35 (1m) 1, ALMUSHTARAK (R Cochrane, 25-1); 2, Decorated Hero (L Dettori, 9-4 jt-fav); 3, Samara (Pat Eddery, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 jt-fav Poleen (4th), 7 In Command, Nwaamis (5th), 9 Hawksley Hill (6th), 14 Captain Collins. 8 ran. NR: Centre Stalls. Nk, hd, ¾l, 2½l, ¾l. K Mahdi at Newmarket. Tote: £28.50; £4.10, £1.30, £2.70. DF: £27.50. Trio: £99.70. CSF: £74.77.

3.10 (2m 2f) 1, CANON CAN (K Fallon, 6-1); 2, Persian Punch (T Quinn, 13-2); 3, Further Flight (M Hills, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 8-13 fav Double Trigger (4th), 33 Old Rouvel (5th). 5 ran. 1¼l, nk, 8l, 14l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £5.60; £1.80, £2.30. DF: £13.00. CSF: £36.67.

3.40 (1m) 1, MIDNIGHT LINE (K Fallon, 3-1 fav); 2, Flawless (G Duffield, 12-1); 3, Glorosia (L Dettori, 100-30). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Virtuous (4th), 5 Alharir (5th), 12 Hedayik (6th), 14 Admire, 20 Optimistic, 33 Belladera. 9 ran. ½l, 3l, 2l, 1½l, sh hd. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £3.30; £1.50, £2.70, £1.80. DF: £22.60. Trio: £33.70. CSF: £36.77.

4.10 (7f) 1, AUNTY JANE (Pat Eddery, 8-1); 2, Dazzle (J Reid, 100-30); 3, Miss Riviera (M Hills, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Noisette, 15-2 Open Credit, 8 Unconditional Love, 9 Hirasah, 14 Well Warned (6th), 20 All Is Fair (5th), 25 Flamboyance (4th). 10 ran. NR: Sally Slade, Wellspring. Hd, hd, ½l, 1½l, ¾l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £7.10; £1.70, £1.80, £2.80. DF: £10.30. Trio: £47.40. CSF: £31.74.

4.40 (7f) 1, SAFIO (D Wright, 6-1 fav); 2, Al Muallim (Pat Eddery, 9-1); 3, Mr Teigh (J Fortune, 10-1); 4, Cybertechnology (M Hills, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Ellland, 10 Raaha, 11 Alphabet, 12 Khalaaq (6th), 16 Almuhimm, Nomore Mr Niceguy, Tertium, Volley (5th), 20 Blane Water, Mr Bergerac, O Factor, 25 Final Stab, 33 Mullitover, Musick House, Rich In Love, Top Banana, Zugudi. 21 ran. NR: Sualtach. ½l, hd, sh hd, nk, nk. A Bailey at Tarporley. Tote: £5.70; £1.80, £2.00, £2.20, £2.50. DF: £19.60. Trio: £72.00. CSF: £47.28. Tricast: £501.18.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £105,516.30 carried forward to Doncaster today).

Placepot: £461.70.

Quadpot: £60.60.

Chepstow

Going: good

2.15 (1m 2f 36yd) 1, Kewarra (M Fenton, 10-1); 2, Bubble Wings (16-1); 3, Monument (14-1); 4, Regal Reprimand (8-1). Routontame 6-1 fav. 16 ran. Sh hd, 1¾l. B Millman. Tote: £15.80; £3.10, £3.20, £6.80, £1.90. DF: £239.60. Trio: £440.50 (part won. Pool of £105.49 carried forward to Doncaster 3.35 today). CSF: £132.87. Tricast: £2,039.02.

2.45 (1m 2f 36yd) 1, Bina Gardens (W Ryan, 6-1); 2, Cugina (7-2); 3, Zalotzine (5-2). Prena 2-1 fav. 5 ran. 2l, 3½l. H Cecil. Tote: £5.00; £1.70, £1.90. DF: £6.70. CSF: £23.67.

3.20 (7f 16yd) 1, Casino King (R Havlin, 8-1); 2, Khalas (4-5 fav); 3, Green Jacket (50-1). 12 ran. NR: Churlish Charm, Gunboat Diplomacy. Nk, 3l. P Chapple-Hyam. Tote: £8.90; £1.60, £1.10, £9.60. DF: £10.10. Trio: £139.60. CSF: £14.09. Gunboat Diplomacy (50-1) was withdrawn — rule 4 does not apply.

3.50 (7f 16yd) 1, Mybotye (W Ryan, 8-1); 2, Samara Song (9-1); 3, Akalim (16-1); 4, Welcome Heights (7-1 fav). 20 ran. Nk, sh hd. R Basiman. Tote: £6.90; £2.10, £2.00, £3.50, £3.00. DF: £13.70. Trio: £172.40. CSF: £66.56. Tricast: £1,086.30.

4.20 (7f 16yd) 1, Smart Squall (W Ryan, 8-1); 2, Tumbleweed Hero (Evens fav); 3, Chief Cashier (16-1). 14 ran. ¾l, 1½l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £9.40; £2.00, £1.50, £2.50. DF: £5.40. Trio: £18.10. CSF: £15.01.

4.50 (1m 14yd) 1, Rock Falcon (M Tebbutt, 8-1); 2, The Executor (9-2 fav); 3, Dancing Lawyer (20-1). 20 ran. 4l, 1l. Lady Herries. Tote: £10.60; £3.00, £2.20, £14.80. DF: £58.50. Trio: £126.20. CSF: £36.32.

5.20 (5f 16yd) 1, General Sir Peter (Amanda Sanders, 33-1); 2, Songsheet (6-1); 3, Pointer (10-1); 4, Will To Win (16-1). Captain Carat 11-2 fav. 19 ran. NR: Divine Miss-P. Sh hd, sh hd. N Callaghan. Tote: £34.50; £4.90, £1.50, £2.80, £4.60. DF: £186.00. Trio: £368.80. CSF: £190.20. Tricast: £2,029.01.

Placepot: £153.70. Quadpot: £6.90.

Newton Abbot

Going: good (good to soft in places)

2.25 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Thefieldsofathenry (Mr O McPhail, 10-1); 2, Kinlogh Gale (5-1); 3, General Mouktar (4-5 fav). 6 ran. NR: Luke Warm, The H'Penny Marvel. 18l, 14l. A Barrow. Tote: £11.30; £3.00, £2.80. DF: £26.10. CSF: £55.58.

2.55 (2m 1f hdle) 1, More Than You Know (A P McCoy, 9-1); 2, Lombardic (11-4); 3, Shehab (5-2). Society Magic 7-4 fav. 10 ran. NR: Laazim Afooz, Mechalini. 12l, 4l. K Burke. Tote: £12.20; £2.20, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £23.70. Trio: £25.50. CSF: £33.76.

3.30 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Mr Playfull (J Frost, 7-2); 2, Distant Memory (11-1); 3, Final Pride (5-4 fav). 6 ran. NR: Cardinal Rule, The Reverend Bert. 2l, 3½l. R Frost. Tote: £5.50; £1.80, £2.50. DF: £13.40. CSF: £32.50. Tricast: £85.10.

4.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Sam Rockett (A Maguire, 8-11 fav); 2, Flagstaff (8-1); 3, Coochie (33-1). 11 ran. 4l, 9l. Miss G Kelleway. Tote: £1.70; £1.30, £2.60, £8.40. DF: £5.80. Trio: £131.90. CSF: £7.80.

4.30 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Plas-Hendy (M Griffiths, 8-1); 2, Indian Temple (16-1); 3, Fenwick (6-1). Grand Applause 7-2 jt-fav. 8 ran. 5l, 15l. P Rich. Tote: £14.40; £3.50, £4.10, £2.30. DF: £94.10. CSF: £109.49. Tricast: £768.14.

5.00 (3m 3f hdle) 1, Derring Bridge (R Johnson, 13-8 fav); 2, Castle Secret (2-1); 3, Spirit Level (8-1). 5 ran. 3½l, dist. Mrs S Johnson. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.80. DF: £3.20. CSF: £5.38.

Placepot: £1,229.80.

Quadpot: £61.00.

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12/1 Danish Rhapsody — 22/1 Strathmore Clear
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CRICKET: WEATHER AND IN-FORM AUSTRALIAN BATSMAN ARE HOME SIDE'S MAIN WORRIES

Law standing in Glamorgan's way

By Simon Wilde

CARDIFF (second day of four): Essex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 133 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Glamorgan

IT SEEMS that only two things can stop Glamorgan taking maximum points against Essex and carrying this thrilling Britannic Assurance county championship race into a pulsating final round next week. One is the weather, which accounted for the loss of 27 overs from the final session and is expected to be unfavourable today: the other is Stuart Law, who batted so majestically that he might have thought that he was still playing in the NatWest Trophy final.

Unfortunately, his colleagues did not. They returned to the inadequate levels of performance they have shown too often in the past two months and there was never much doubt that they would be made to follow on. There ought to have been, as the pitch is lifeless and offering turn but slowly.

In reply to Glamorgan's 361, Essex were all out for 169 — Law's 85 from 63 balls constituting more than half the final total and two-thirds of the runs scored while he was at the wicket — and were batting again by tea. They immediately lost Robinson in Watkin's first over, but Law was not required to come to the rescue immediately as Prichard, who has a habit of scoring runs second time around, and Hussain held firm in fading light.

With the weather forecast uncertain, Maynard, the Glamorgan captain, cannot have hesitated about asking Essex to bat again, but he will be conscious of what happened at the Oval last week. Surrey, 234 behind on first innings, batted again, amassed nearly 500 and got away with a draw. One difference here is that his bowlers remain relatively fresh, having dismissed Essex in less than three hours.

Breathtakingly though Law played — he was reminiscent of Viv Richards, so strong was his driving through the on side and so determined was he to dominate — his recklessness may have contributed to the indiscipline of his less talented partners. There was an inexplicable freneticism about the whole innings, the run-rate staying at over five an over for most of the time.

Essex were batting 75 minutes into the day, though not before the Glamorgan tail had resourcefully captured the one outstanding bonus point on offer. This was achieved by forthright hitting from Waqar Younis and Darren Thomas, who was capped in the tea interval, before both fell during a lively spell from Danny Law. He finished with his best championship figures of the season, four for 69.

Waqar was soon in action again, bowling at a slippery pace despite the unpromising conditions. In his second over, Prichard fractionally misjudged a clip off his legs and was held low by James at point. Two balls later, Hussain was squared up and smartly held by Cottey low down to his left at first slip.

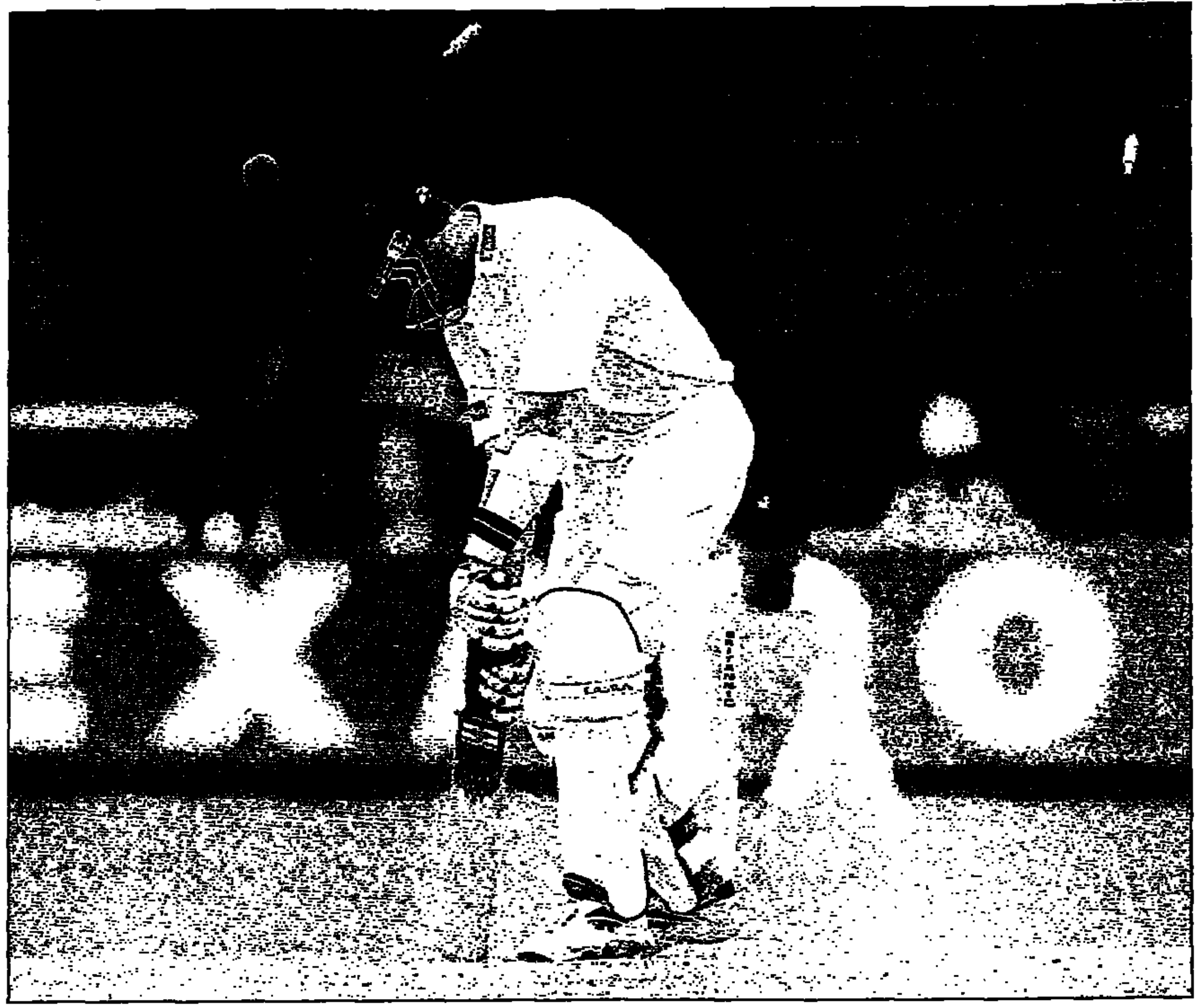
Glamorgan were on a roll and it was no surprise that Stuart Law tried to regain the initiative, but Glamorgan were plainly taken aback at his aggression and his lack of concern at the risky nature of many of his early strokes.

Time and again, he drove within feet of mid-on, but he was making few errors by lunch, at which point he had scored 34 from 26 balls. From the first over afterwards, bowled by Watkin, he took 13; from the next, from his old friend Thomas, he took eight, to bring up his half-century from 35 balls out of 60 runs added.

In Watkin's next over, though, Robinson essayed a drive of his own and was caught by Shaw in front of slip. In Thomas's next over, Irani and Grayson were leg-before to successive deliveries. Danny Law briefly matched his namesake before Watkin removed him with a leg-cutter and Glamorgan could relax, confident that they would be able to enforce the follow-on, even without dismissing Essex's most dangerous player.

In fact, Law, the situation now desperate, soon holed out to deep mid-on, seeking a fifteenth boundary, after which the tail offered brief resistance before a foolish run-out from a misfield led to the final collapse. Essex will expect something from Prichard and Hussain today, but Law is their realistic hope.

HUW JOHN



Cowan is bowled by Waqar for a duck as Essex collapse to 169 all out and are forced to follow on

Shah enjoys moment to remember

By Jack Bailey

LORD'S (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 314 runs behind Middlesex

MIDDLESEX have pinned their hopes on a sizeable first-innings score, followed by the wiles of Phil Tufnell and, so far, they have not been disappointed. No attempt was made to force the pace yesterday as they took 54 overs to translate their overnight 283 for five wickets into 430 for eight. This was primarily because the chief mover was Owais Shah, who was in search of a maiden century and was understandably careful along the road to glory.

Shah's objective was achieved after a vigil of nearly five hours. It was a highly promising innings. The 18-year-old was still there when Ramprakash declared and, apart from the odd burst of cramp, looked as though he could have lasted all day. Then came Tufnell. The Nottinghamshire batsmen — apart from Robinson and Dowman, who put on 67 for the first wicket — were no match for his variations in the autumnal gloom.

A spell of three wickets for nine runs in 24 balls from him and the removal by Jacques Kallis of Paul Johnson sent Nottinghamshire sliding to 91 for four. By then, the light had become so borderline that Ramprakash was bowling in harness with Tufnell and even his medium pace had Tolley and Afzaal hanging on by a slender thread.

Nottinghamshire's armoury does not exactly bristle, but there were a number of good, honest yeomen going about their business yesterday and they did not wilt as the Middlesex score continued to mount. Inroads were made as Brown top-edged a pull and Hewitt was caught at mid-wicket off the underused Afzaal, who also had Fraser stumped after a brisk 27 from 29 balls. Still Shah had not reached three figures.

It was left to Tufnell's straight bat to prop and cop as Shah moved from 91 to his century. An hour had seen him score 15 singles before a push for three took him to 99 and then the moment of a lifetime. By then, he had hit 13 fours and a six and had impressed mightily with his driving off front foot and back.

So surely did Robinson and Dowman deal with the Middlesex quick bowlers that there was no hint of the trials to come. Both batted with assurance, although Fraser, warmly received by the crowd after his selection for the West Indies tour, flirted with Dowman's outside edge several times. Dowman was the first to go, pinned on the back foot by Tufnell, and the slide was on.

Robinson edged, pushing forward, and when Johnson survived only six balls before edging to second slip, Nottinghamshire were up against it.

Lancashire promote Simmons to top table

By Michael Henderson

THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 338 runs behind Lancashire

LANCASHIRE have elected Jack Simmons, the club's former all-rounder, as their new chairman. The appointment is well made because Simmons is a man around whom a troubled club can regroup. He succeeds Bob Bennett, who is standing down to concentrate on his duties as chairman of the England committee.

It was entirely in keeping with his reputation as the game's greatest trencherman that, after expressing the hope that "we can all work together", Simmons mentioned the caterers before the groundstaff. Perhaps the club should lay on a welcoming feast and serve the "Simmo Special" — steak pudding, fish, chips and mushy peas, topped off with a curry sauce.

He has, so to speak, a lot on his plate. Lancashire have yet to name John Bower's successor as chief executive, although Jim Cumbes, the commercial manager, is expected to be offered the post. They have also to settle the captaincy issue and to confirm that Wasim Akram will remain their overseas player.

Jason Gallian is finalising his move to Middlesex and he may not be the only player to leave Old Trafford, such is the general uncertainty. Simmons may consider it prudent to call an end-of-term meeting and knock a few heads together.

There is much to put right before Lancashire can take their place at county cricket's top table, but they have enjoyed much the better of this match. After Surrey scored their first hundred runs at five an over, Watkinson and Keedy found easy pickings against some irresolute batting.

Lancashire declared on 592 for four after Fairbrother completed the third unremarkable century of the innings. He is one of 14 men in this match to have played for England at a senior level and the cricket has still been execrable.

Derbyshire suffer on another grey day

By Richard Hobson

WORCESTER (second day of four): Worcestershire have a first innings lead of 331 runs over Derbyshire

CRICKET lover though he is, John Major will not have completely enjoyed his day as a spectator at New Road. He was defeated in a one-sided contest himself earlier in the season and, as a neutral on this occasion, his heart surely went out to Derbyshire.

For the visitors to emerge from this game without defeat requires either an immeasurably improved performance by the top order or a tornado to hit Worcester. It is debatable which is more likely. The early collapse yesterday was entirely predictable, the prospects of avoiding the follow-on target of 405 always remote.

Worcester extended their overnight total to 554 for eight before declaring ten minutes after lunch. Weston had moved to within 12 runs of his second double-century of the season when he edged Cassar to Krikken, before Leatherdale, on 93, was bowled in the next over attempting to drive Malcolm.

Through the innings, the occasional ball turned and spat, but Derbyshire were deep in the mire long before Moody turned to his slow bowlers. Cork, a curious choice as opener, pushed ineffectually at Sheriyar to give Weston a catch at fourth slip and Stubbings, on his debut, fenced at Haynes in the next over.

When Barnett offered a second catch to Rhodes trying to deflect Sheriyar, Derbyshire were in peril at 12 for three. Clarke drove to cover and Tweats ran himself out after deciding belatedly against an impossible single.

Cassar, born in Sydney and English-qualified, appeared uneasy against the spinners, but his tenacity helped him through a difficult period to add 71 for the sixth wicket with Krikken. Would that some of his colleagues had shown equal application.

DeFreitas became Hick's first championship wicket of the season, but Cassar remained unbeaten on 76, two short of his career best.

YESTERDAY'S BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP SCOREBOARDS

Durham v Somerset

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four): Durham, with three second-innings wickets in hand, are 145 runs ahead of Somerset

DURHAM: First Innings 230 (J E Morris 79)

Second Innings

J J B Lewis c Turner b Mushtaq	50
S Hutton c Turner b Rose	20
J E Morris c Turner b Caddick	7
*D C Boon lbw b Caddick	10
R M S Weston c Ecclestone b Caddick	1
†M P Speight lbw b Mushtaq	1
M J Foster not out	27
M M Betts lbw b Mushtaq	1
J Boiling not out	0
Extras (b 4, lb 7, nb 4)	15
Total (7 wkts)	132

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-66, 2-81, 3-99, 4-99, 5-101, 6-101, 7-108.

BOWLING: Caddick 19-7-57-3; Rose 12-1-43-1; Mushtaq Ahmed 13-10-4-3; Bowler 6-3-17-0

SOMERSET: First Innings

†R J Turner b Foster	21
P C L Holloway lbw b Foster	46
M N Lathwell lbw b Walker	57
M E Trescothick c Weston b Walker	4
*P D Bowler lbw b Brown	23
M Burns lbw b Brown	7
S C Ecclestone b Betts	12
G D Rose not out	15
A R Caddick lbw b Betts	0
Mushtaq Ahmed run out	8
K J Shine c Boon b Brown	0
Extras (b 3, lb 14, w 5, nb 2)	24
Total (77.1 overs)	217

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-130, 3-140, 4-146, 5-166, 6-195, 7-197, 8-197, 9-217

BOWLING: Brown 27.1-6-69-3; Betts 19-6-56-2; Foster 14-3-37-2; Walker 13-4-38-2; Boiling 4-1-10-0

Umpires: J D Bond and J W Holder

Glamorgan v Essex

CARDIFF (second day of four): Essex, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 133 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James c Robinson b Ilott	2
H Morris lbw b Ilott	82
A Dale b Ilott	49
*M P Maynard c and b D R Law	71
P A Cottey c Prichard b D R Law	46
R D B Croft c Hussain b Grayson	16
†A D Shaw c Cowan b Grayson	6
S D Thomas b D R Law	39
Waqar Younis c S G Law b D R Law	17
S L Watkin run out	3
D A Cosker not out	0
Extras (b 5, lb 14, w 5, nb 6)	30
Total (119.4 overs)	

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-146, 3-149, 4-276, 5-277, 6-286, 7-301, 8-337, 9-355.

BOWLING: Ilott 22-4-65-3; Cowan 5-1-26-0; D R Law 24.4-6-69-4; Grayson 33-7-84-2; Such 31-6-82-0; S G Law 4-0-16-0

ESSEX: First Innings

*P J Prichard c James b Waqar	6
D D J Robinson c Shaw b Watkin	12
N Hussain c Cottey b Waqar	0
S G Law c Dale b Watkin	85
R C Irani lbw b Thomas	7
A P Grayson lbw b Thomas	0
D R Law c Morris b Watkin	15
†B J Hyam run out	10
M C Ilott not out	26
A P Cowan b Waqar	0
P M Such c sub b Croft	0
Extras (b 1, lb 7)	8
Total (43.2 overs)	169

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-6, 3-70, 4-79, 5-79, 6-122, 7-133, 8-156, 9-156

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 11-2-31-3; Watkin 14-2-68-3; Croft 8.2-2-10-1; Thomas 8-0-48-2; Cosker 2-1-4-0

Second Innings

*P J Prichard not out	31
D D J Robinson c Maynard b Watkin	0
N Hussain not out	23
Extras (lb 5)	5
Total (1 wkt)	59

FALL OF WICKET: 1-2.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 4-0-14-0; Watkin 5-2-6-1; Croft 4-0-23-0; Cosker 1-0-6-0; Thomas 1.1-0-5-0.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 8 Essex 4

Umpires: J H Harris and R Julian.

Hampshire v Sussex

SOUTHAMPTON (second day of four): Sussex, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 70 runs ahead of Hampshire

SUSSEX: First Innings 114 (S D Udal 4 for 17, S M Milburn 4 for 38)

Second Innings

M T E Peirce not out	81
*†P Moores lbw b Milburn	21
N R Taylor c Aymes b Renshaw	52
K Greenfield c Maru b Milburn	11
K Newell not out	30
Extras (lb 4, nb 2)	6
Total (3 wkts)	201

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-114, 3-142.

BOWLING: Milburn 14-1-58-2; Renshaw 16-6-24-1; Udal 30-7-70-0; Maru 10-5-11-0; Stephenson 12-2-34-0

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

J S Laney c Moores b Kirtley	7
M L Hayden c Jarvis b Bates	25
G W White b Khan	80
P R Whitaker b Khan	73
W S Kendall c Jarvis b Khan	15
*J P Stephenson lbw b Kirtley	1
†A N Aymes lbw b Kirtley	0
S D Udal b Kirtley	5
S J Renshaw b Jarvis	11
R J Maru c Carpenter b Khan	4
S M Milburn not out	4
Extras (lb 6, nb 14)	20
Total (83.4 overs)	245

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-71, 3-196, 4-205, 5-206, 6-208, 7-212, 8-231, 9-239.

BOWLING: Jarvis 16-1-71-1; Kirtley 15-3-41-4; Robinson 10-4-17-0; Bates 15-6-31-1; Khan 27.4-6-79-4

Bonus points: Hampshire 5 Sussex 4

Umpires: J C Balderstone and R A White.

Middlesex v Notts

LORD'S (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 314 runs behind Middlesex

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

J C Pooley st Noon b Bates	98
J H Kallis lbw b Tolley	34
*M R Ramprakash run out	55
M W Gatting b Franks	33
O A Shah not out	104
D C Nash b Bowen	6
†K R Brown c Tolley b Evans	14
J P Hewitt c Johnson b Afzaal	13
A R C Fraser st Noon b Afzaal	27
P C R Tufnell not out	7
Extras (b 5, lb 6, nb 28)	39
Total (8 wkts dec)	430

Score at 120 overs: 321-6

T F Bloomfield did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-66, 2-184, 3-225, 4-269, 5-283, 6-319, 7-376, 8-410

BOWLING: Bowen 25-4-75-1; Franks 25-3-95-1; Tolley 23-4-70-1; Evans 33-10-70-1; Bates 42-11-80-1; Afzaal 12-2-29-2

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

M P Dowman lbw b Tufnell	28
R T Robinson c Brown b Tufnell	35
G E Welton c Brown b Tufnell	14
*P Johnson c Pooley b Kallis	1
U Afzaal not out	8
C M Tolley not out	23
Extras (lb 5, nb 2)	7
Total (4 wkts, 53 overs)	116

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-69, 2-72, 3-73, 4-91.

BOWLING: Fraser 8-2-13-0; Hewitt 9-4-20-0; Tufnell 17-5-23-3; Kallis 11-3-25-1; Bloomfield 4-1-12-0; Ramprakash 6-3-18-0

Umpires: B Leadbeater and G I Burgess

Northants v Leics

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Leicestershire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 48 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

A Fordham c Nixon b Ormond	32
R R Montgomerie b Brimson	19
*R J Bailey c Sutcliffe b Pierson	28
K M Curran b Ormond	4
D J G Sales c Nixon b Millns	21
A L Penberthy c Nixon b Maddy	65
†D Ripley c Nixon b Ormond	92
J P Taylor b Ormond	36
S A J Boswell c and b Ormond	8
M K Davies not out	2
J F Brown b Ormond	0
Extras (b 5, lb 11, nb 8)	24
Total (118.5 overs)	332

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-52, 3-56, 4-104, 5-105, 6-260, 7-300, 8-323, 9-332

BOWLING: Millns 22-4-58-1; Ormond 24.5-5-88-6; Wells 10-0-32-0; Brimson 27-9-63-1; Pierson 27-6-84-1; Dakin 5-1-9-0; Maddy 3-2-2-1.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

V J Wells b Taylor	21
D L Maddy c Bailey b Boswell	29
I J Sutcliffe c Curran b Brown	61
*J J Whitaker c Ripley b Boswell	0
B F Smith lbw b Brown	30
J M Dakin not out	135
†P A Nixon lbw b Davies	20
D J Millns not out	60
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 16)	24
Total (6 wkts, 97 overs)	380

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-87, 3-87, 4-122, 5-183, 6-271

BOWLING: Taylor 17-0-82-1; Boswell 13-1-78-2; Brown 36-10-101-2; Davies 21-4-75-1; Penberthy 7-0-24-0; Bailey 3-0-12-0.

Umpires: M J Kitchen and R Palmer

Surrey v Lancashire

THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 338 runs behind Lancashire

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

N T Wood c B C Hollioake b Butcher	155
M A Atherton c Stewart b A J Hollioake	149
J P Crawley b Amin	64
N H Fairbrother not out	112
G Chapple c B C Hollioake b D J Bicknell	5
G D Lloyd not out	65
Extras (b 4, lb 2, w 12, nb 24)	42
Total (4 wkts dec)	592

*M Watkinson, P M Ridgway, †W K Hegg, P J Martin and G Keedy did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-259, 2-373, 3-446, 4-459

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 14-3-58-0; Benjamin 22-3-97-0; A J Hollioake 17-2-61-1; B C Hollioake 18-2-101-0; Salisbury 20-2-77-0; Amin 28-5-135-1; Ratcliffe 3-1-11-0; Brown 1-0-13-0; D J Bicknell 4-0-12-1; Butcher 8-1-23-1.

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell lbw b Watkinson	74
M A Butcher c Fairbrother b Watkinson	49
J D Ratcliffe c Watkinson b Keedy	12
†A J Stewart c Hegg b Keedy	73
A D Brown b Watkinson	0
*A J Hollioake c Lloyd b Keedy	14
B C Hollioake c Wood b Keedy	18
I D K Salisbury not out	1
J E Benjamin not out	0
Extras (b 5, lb 6, nb 2)	13
Total (7 wkts, 78 overs)	254

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-103, 2-118, 3-171, 4-171, 5-204, 6-245, 7-254

BOWLING: Martin 9-3-31-0; Chapple 7-2-18-0; Ridgway 5-1-30-0; Keedy 32-10-89-4; Watkinson 25-7-75-3

Umpires: A Clarkson and P Willey

Warwicks v Gloucs

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, need 119 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Warwickshire

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

*N V Knight c Hewson b Smith	71
M A Wagh b Lewis	10
D L Hemp c Ball b Lewis	66
D P Ostler c Russell b Smith	1
T L Penney lbw b Lewis	13
†K J Piper c Ball b Lewis	2
N M K Smith lbw b Lewis	148
A F Giles c Windows b Lewis	9
D R Brown c Davis b Smith	79
G Welch not out	1
A A Donald c Ball b Smith	0
Extras (lb 8, nb 10)	18
Total (112.3 overs)	418

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-148, 3-156, 4-165, 5-167, 6-204, 7-228, 8-412, 9-418.

BOWLING: Smith 20.3-2-70-4; Lewis 24-5-89-6; Ball 29-10-69-0; Young 12-0-70-0; Alleyne 17-3-69-0; Davis 6-0-22-0; Hancock 4-1-21-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

M G N Windows c Piper b Donald	0
T H C Hancock b Smith	35
R I Dawson c Ostler b Brown	10
S Young c Piper b Welch	9
*M W Alleyne c Ostler b Welch	5
†R C Russell c Wagh b Donald	10
M C J Ball c Ostler b Smith	10
R P Davis lbw b Smith	2
J Lewis not out	9
A M Smith b Smith	15
D R Hewson abs	0
Extras (nb 8)	8
Total (40 overs)	113

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-25, 3-44, 4-62, 5-70, 6-83, 7-89, 8-89, 9-113.

BOWLING: Donald 10-4-24-2; Brown 9-5-20-1; Welch 10-2-37-2; Smith 11-3-32-4

Second Innings

M G N Windows c Piper b Welch	20
T H C Hancock b Giles	41
R I Dawson c Ostler b Smith	5
S Young c Ostler b Giles	25
*M W Alleyne b Smith	4
†R C Russell retired hurt	44
M C J Ball not out	19
R P Davis not out	3
Extras (b 12, lb 3, w 2, nb 8)	25
Total (5 wkts)	186

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-71, 3-73, 4-77, 5-154.

BOWLING: Donald 8-4-38-0; Brown 11-6-13-0; Welch 4-1-17-1; Giles 17-6-46-2; Smith 14-2-57-2.

Bonus points: Warwicks 8 Gloucs 4

Umpires: G Sharp and N T Plews

Worcs v Derbyshire

WORCESTER (second day of four): Worcestershire have a first innings lead of 331 runs over Derbyshire

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

K R Spiring b Harris	20
W P C Weston c Krikken b Cassar	188
G A Hick b DeFreitas	31
*T M Moody b Cassar	101
G R Haynes b Cork	6
D A Leatherdale b Malcolm	93
V S Solanki c Harris b Lacey	20
†S J Rhodes c Tweats b Lacey	24
S R Lampitt not out	14
R K Illingworth not out	7
Extras (b 14, lb 20, nb 16)	50
Total (8 wkts dec)	554

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-94, 3-267, 4-280, 5-477, 6-481, 7-511, 8-527.

BOWLING: Malcolm 23-3-117-1; DeFreitas 22-3-85-1; Harris 13-3-47-1; Cork 23-8-63-1; Lacey 28-7-60-2; Clarke 18.4-3-98-0; Cassar 15-3-50-2.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

S Stubbings c Rhodes b Haynes	5
D G Cork c Weston b Sheriyar	0
T A Tweats run out	42
K J Barnett c Rhodes b Sheriyar	1
V P Clarke c Moody b Haynes	19
M E Cassar not out	76
†K M Krikken b Sheriyar	48
*P A J DeFreitas b Hick	4
S J Lacey lbw b Illingworth	11
A J Harris c Solanki b Moody	2
D E Malcolm c Spiring b Illingworth	1
Extras (b 7, lb 5, w 2)	14
Total (82.5 overs)	223

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-11, 3-12, 4-51, 5-84, 6-155, 7-170, 8-208, 9-222.

BOWLING: Sheriyar 8-1-36-3; Haynes 8-2-30-2; Lampitt 7-1-22-0; Hick 20-6-71-1; Illingworth 16.5-12-39-2; Moody 3-0-13-1.

Bonus points: Worcs 8 Derbyshire 2

Umpires: D R Shepherd and A G T Whitehead.

Yorkshire v Kent

HEADINGLEY (second day of four): Kent have a first innings lead of 62 runs over Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 312 (D S Lehmann 87, D Byas 59, D Gough 58, M A Ealham 4 for 82, A P Igglesden 4 for 87)

KENT: First Innings

D P Fulton c Blakey b Silverwood	21
E T Smith c McGrath b Silverwood	38
D W Headley run out	40
T R Ward b White	56
A P Wells lbw b Silverwood	10
G R Cowdrey c Blakey b Silverwood	4
M A Ealham b Silverwood	4
M V Fleming c White b Silverwood	53
*†S A Marsh b Hutchison	84
P A Strang not out	29
A P Igglesden b Silverwood	0
Extras (b 2, lb 13, w 2, nb 20)	37
Total (104.3 overs)	374

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-71, 2-82, 3-169, 4-193, 5-195, 6-199, 7-202, 8-285, 9-371.

BOWLING: Gough 12-1-56-0; Hutchison 28-8-91-1; Silverwood 29.3-8-93-7; White 20-4-52-1; Stemp 10-1-32-0; Vaughan 5-0-35-0.

Bonus points: Yorkshire 7 Kent 8

Umpires: H D Bird and B J Meyer

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CRICKET

Head injury to Russell adds to woe

By Ivo Tennant

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with five second-innings in hand, are 119 runs behind Warwickshire

TWICE this season, Gloucestershire have led the Britannic Assurance county championship. It was simply not possible to glean that from their cricket yesterday, for they batted with a despondency and fecklessness that would, had the light been better and Warwickshire claimed the extra half-hour, most probably have led to a defeat in two days. They resume today with one of the their remaining batsmen ill and another suffering from concussion.

For much of the season, Gloucestershire have played wonderfully spirited, cohesive cricket. Here, they disintegrated. As with Leicestershire in the season or two before they won the championship, this side does not quite look the part. Warwickshire's greater experience has been of immeasurable benefit over the first two days.

It was not as if the ball was moving extravagently or turning sharply. A month or two ago, Gloucestershire would not have collapsed like this. They were without Hewson, who was unable to bat in either innings after seeing a doctor over heart trouble. Then Russell, having made 44 in their second innings in his customary puckish way, had to retire after a short ball from Brown struck him on the back of his helmet.

All this happened after Gloucestershire had taken Warwickshire's last three wickets for 11 runs in the morning. Neil Smith added a further three to his overnight 145 before Lewis gained his sixth wicket of the innings, having him leg-before. Mike Smith then had Brown caught at second slip and Donald at first slip off successive balls.

Gloucestershire's first innings did not begin propitiously. Donald had Windows caught at the wicket in his second over, the ball cutting back and taking the inside edge. Dawson became the first of five batsmen to be held in the slips by Ostler. At least three of those catches, taken low or one-handed, were of a standard that the ancients would have recognised.

Next, Young was taken at the wicket driving at one that Welch swung away from the bat. It was as good a ball as any bowled all day. Ostler held perhaps the pick of his catches to remove Alleyne, again off Welch, and Neil Smith collected four of the remaining five wickets, his best performance of the season.

Made to follow on 305 runs in arrears, Gloucestershire fared little better. Even allowing for their understandable gloom over the defeat at Canterbury last week that put paid to their chances of winning the championship, this was a wretched effort. Their committee would not wish to see first-class county cricket changed from its present form, but they would have had a job convincing Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, had he been on the ground.

Windows went this time to an away swinger, caught at the wicket off Welch. Hancock, until he was yorked by Giles, again played competently enough, but Dawson and Alleyne went cheaply.

Russell drove his first two balls, from Neil Smith, to the cover boundary. He took his eye off the ball that hit him, but should be fit to bat today. He and Young, who was held one-handed by Ostler off Giles, had added 77 in 18 overs.

SIMON WILKINSON

Silverwood, the Yorkshire bowler, celebrates having Fulton, of Kent, caught behind at Headingley. Report, page 44

Dakin seizes chance to make his mark

By Barney Spender

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Leicestershire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 48 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

THE ill-fortune of one man can often be a blessing for another. Such is the case for Jon Dakin, Leicestershire's powerful all-rounder, who has had to be content with a place in the one-day side all summer while following the county's progress in the championship from the second XI.

His chance finally arrived when Neil Johnson had to return home to South Africa earlier this week with ankle ligament trouble. Dakin, who was himself brought up in Johannesburg, grasped the opportunity with both hands yesterday, recording his third first-class hundred.

Dakin began the season with 103 not out against Cambridge University, but this was only his second championship innings since 1995. The last one, against Worcestershire on May 8, resulted in a duck. However, he played with a freedom and purpose that suggests he may get a few more chances in the longer game next season.

After Leicestershire had slipped to 120 for four, Dakin shared three important partnerships, adding 63 with Iain Sutcliffe, 88 with Paul Nixon and, finally, an unbroken 109 with David Millns, who struck a robust 60 not out.

Dakin, occasionally troubled by the promising spin pair of Brown and Davies, took advantage of their lapses in concentration and length as he posted nine fours in his half-century. His next fifty came from 57 balls and, by the close, he had moved on to a career-best 135 not out.

Earlier, James Ormond had wrapped up the Northamptonshire innings with three wickets in 16 balls to claim six for 68, his best figures in the championship.

Durham's optimism obscured by cloud

By Derek Hodgson

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four): Durham, with three second-innings wickets in hand, lead Somerset by 145 runs

TOMMY FLINTOFF, a respected groundsman who retires next year, was being congratulated yesterday on the settling down of the square at the Riverside Ground. Sixteen wickets then fell in the day and Durham, who might have been expected to push for their third victory of the summer, ended the day facing probable defeat.

Once a flawless sky had given way to cloud, just before noon, things began to happen. Mark Lathwell had looked destined for a big score and David Boon, quick to remind enquirers that he had kept wicket for Australia in two one-day matches, had to sustain Durham's spirits as deputy for the injured Martin Speight.

Even he was going flat when, at 130 for one, Lathwell was deceived by a slower ball. Ten runs later, Marcus Trescothick was similarly confounded, his attempted flick off his legs turning into a leading edge.

When Holloway was dismissed, three wickets had fallen for 16 runs. Durham, tails up, brought back their opening pair, Simon Brown and Mel Betts, and the last nine wickets fell for 71 in 33 overs.

Andrew Caddick and Graham Rose made no impact immediately and, with Kevin Shine resting a back strain, Somerset were falling further behind when, with Durham 66 without loss, the indefatigable Rose took his 500th first-class wicket, that of Stewart Hutton.

Three overs later, Caddick surprised Morris and then Boon before Lewis's 36-over defiance ended when he edged a leg break from Mushtaq, leaving the middle to disintegrate. Flintoff's pitch is blameless.

Sussex earn healthy return on Peirce

Pat Gibson

SOUTHAMPTON (second day of four): Sussex, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 70 runs ahead of Hampshire

TOBY PEIRCE may have made the right investment after all. The left-handed opening batsman, who gave up a career in the City to return to the game this season, must have questioned his judgment many times in recent weeks as Sussex stumbled from one defeat to another on their way to the bottom of the county championship.

Yesterday, however, the future looked much brighter. James Kirtley, recovered at last from the back problem which has troubled him all summer, looked as promising a fast bowler as there is in the country as Hampshire lost their last eight wickets for 49 in 20 overs. Then Peirce occupied the crease for more than 4½ hours and 81 runs to give Sussex the prospect of only their second championship win.

Everything is relative, of course, and it has to be said that, on this evidence, Hampshire are in an even worse state than Sussex. They began the day 71 runs ahead with eight wickets in hand but instead of consolidating on a position of strength they simply squandered it.

It was the leg spinner, Amer Khan, almost a veteran in this Sussex side at the age of 27, who began the collapse by bowling Whitaker for 73 and White for 80 before Kirtley, still only 22, tore through the middle order with a spell of three for 17.

Sussex still faced a deficit of 131 but they cleared it during a second-wicket partnership of 79 between Peirce and the experienced Taylor. Taylor had just reached his 50 when he was expertly stumped by Aymes, standing up to the fast medium Renshaw, but Peirce went on to his 81 off 241 balls and, with Newell lending positive support, gave Sussex hope of better things to come.

IN BRIEF

England's amateurs home in on record

ENGLAND are on the brink of a record fifth consecutive amateur home international golf chanmpionship after their 10½-4½ win over Scotland at Burnham and Berrow, Somerset, yesterday. A win in their final match, against Ireland, today will bring Peter McEvoy's six-year reign as captain to a successful conclusion.

Philip Rowe, 18, from West Cornwall, and Shaun Philipson, 34, from Prudhoe, were in particularly fine form as England won three of the five foursomes and then stormed to a 7-3 triumph in the singles. Philipson, who was making his debut, scored a hole in one at the 161-yard 5th.

McManus on cue

Snooker: Alan McManus claimed the fourth and final wild card for the Regal Scottish Masters yesterday by defeating Tony Drago, of Malta, 5-2 in the final qualifying round at Spencer's Snooker Centre, Stirling.

Jalabert leads

Cycling: Laurent Jalabert, the world No 1, assumed the overall lead in the Tour of Spain, after winning the sixth stage yesterday. Jalabert initiated the decisive attack and led the breakaway group over the finish line at Granada.

Cruel cut

Rugby league: Warrington Wolves yesterday announced a retained list of only 16 players for next season. The move fuels speculation over the future of Paul Hulme, the former Great Britain forward, and the overseas players, Kelly Shelford, Salesi Finau, Willie Swann and George Mann, who were not on the list.

Storm damaged

Ice hockey: Manchester Storm suffered their first defeat in the Benson and Hedges Cup on Wednesday, when the lost 5-3 to Ayr Scottish Eagles.

EXCLUSIVE TIMES NEWSPAPERS GRAND PRIX COMPETITION

THE TIMES FANTASY FORMULA ONE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH MARLBORO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Fantasy Formula One race hots up for our £25,000 top prize

Only four races remain in our Fantasy Formula One competition: the Austrian Grand Prix on September 21, the Luxembourg Grand Prix on September 28, the Japanese race on October 12 and the European Grand Prix on October 26. Heading our leaderboard in the race for our £25,000 top prize is A Bradley of Godalming, Surrey. His team, Slickhead 3, scored 619 points at the Italian Grand Prix to take his cumulative score in the competition to 9,451 points. In second place is L Ackland from Guildford, Surrey. His team, Aston O, scored 741 points at Monza to take his total points to 9,419 in the competition. Mrs J Bonnett, of Halstead, Essex, wins a trip for two to next year's British Grand Prix. Her team, Blondie, scored 774 points at Monza.

TO ENTER make three selections from each of the four groups below and call 0891 405 001 (+44 990 100 311 outside the UK). The order in which you register your first three drivers will be your predictions for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishing places for the Luxembourg Grand Prix and the European Grand Prix where bonus points apply.

TRANSFERS Change up to four selections before the Austrian Grand Prix by calling 0891 555 994 (+44 990 100 394 ex UK) before noon on Thursday, September 18.

CHECK YOUR SCORE Check your score and position by calling 0891 884 648 (+44 990 100 348 ex UK).

CLARIFICATION: Rule 2 applies to the transfers and replacements on the table below. All cumulative figures have been adjusted as a consequence of M Hakkinen's late disqualification from third position in the Belgian GP. The cumulative figure for Prost published after the Canadian Grand Prix has been adjusted downwards by 10 points as his car did not finish the race.

THE PRIZES The manager with the best team score after the European Grand Prix on October 26, will win £25,000 courtesy of our sponsor Marlboro World Championship team. Prizes of £10,000 and £5,000 will go to two runners-up. The manager with the best score at the Austrian GP wins a trip for two to next year's British GP. The runner-up will receive a Sony PlayStation and CD-Rom game.

HOW THE POINTS WERE SCORED AT MONZA

DRIVERS: Qualifying points (scored by qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid): Pole J Alesi 30 points; 2nd H-H Frentzen 25; 3rd G Fisichella 24; 4th J Villeneuve 23; 5th M Hakkinen 22; 6th D Coulthard 21; 7th G Berger 20; 8th R Schumacher 19; 9th M Schumacher 18; 10th E Irvine 17; 11th R Barrichello 16; 12th J Herbert 15; 13th J Magnussen 14; 14th D Hill 13; 15th S Nakano 12; 16th J Trulli 11; 17th P Diniz 10; 18th G Morbidelli 9; 19th M Salo 8; 20th J Verstappen 7. **Finishing points** (scored for the top 20 classified positions at the end of every grand prix): 1st D Coulthard 60 points; 2nd J Alesi 50; 3rd H-H Frentzen 40; 4th G Fisichella 30; 5th J Villeneuve 29; 6th M Schumacher 28; 7th G Berger 27; 8th E Irvine 26; 9th M Hakkinen 25; 10th J Trulli 24; 11th S Nakano 23; 12th G Morbidelli 22; 13th R Barrichello 21; 14th T Marques 20. (Only 14 were classified.) **Lap points** (one point for each lap completed): D Coulthard 53 points; J Alesi 53; H-H Frentzen 53; G Fisichella 53; J Villeneuve 53; M Schumacher 53; G Berger 53; E Irvine 53; M Hakkinen 53; J Trulli 53; S Nakano 53; R Barrichello 52; G Morbidelli 52; T Marques 50; D Hill 46; R Schumacher 39; J Herbert 38; M Salo 33; J Magnussen 31; J Verstappen 12; U Katayama 8; P Diniz 4. **Improvement from starting grid to finishing position** (3 points for each improved place): T Marques 24 points; J Trulli 18; G Morbidelli 18; D Coulthard 15; S Nakano 12; M Schumacher 9; E Irvine 6. **Fastest lap time of grand prix** M Hakkinen 10 points. **Penalty points** Incident resulting in a driver being made to start from back of grid or pit lane (10 points deducted): none. **Did not finish the race** (10 points deducted): D Hill -10 points; R Schumacher -10; J Herbert -10; M Salo -10; J Magnussen -10; J Verstappen -10; U Katayama -10; P Diniz -10. **Not starting after qualifying** (10 points deducted): none. **Speeding in the pit lane** (5 points deducted): none.

CONSTRUCTORS: Finishing points (scored for the first car only in the top 20 positions at the end of every grand prix): McLaren 30 points; Benetton 25; Williams 24; Jordan 23; Ferrari 21; Prost 17; Sauber 15; Stewart 14; Minardi 13. **Penalty points** Incident resulting in a car being made to start from back of gnd or pit lane (10 points deducted): none. **Elimination of a car during the race** (10 points deducted): Arrows -20 points; Tyrrell -20; Jordan -10; Sauber -10; Minardi -10; Stewart -10. **Not starting after qualifying** (10 points deducted): none. **Speeding in the pit lane** (5 points deducted): none.

OUR LEADERBOARD AFTER THE ITALIAN GRAND PRIX

POS	TEAM NAME	MANAGER NAME	POINTS
1	Slickhead 3	A Bradley	9451
2	Aston O	L Ackland	9419
3	Coolsport	D A Coolican	9309
4	The Tigglers	—	9233
4	Cathy's Clowns	Mrs C Robinson	9233
4	Bezzotti Racing	A Scott	9233
4	F1 Erb	S Erhorn	9233
8	Waite Racing F1	P Waite	9218
9	Gwilt F1	D G Gwilt	9194
10	Cartell Racing	S Dimetto	9191
10	No Hopers	P Zeinalabedini	9191
12	Scuderia Vitulli	Mr Vitulli	9190
13	Dragon Racing	R Davis	9167
13	Will And Nerve	A Mewes	9167
15	Smith-Astra	D R Smith	9161
16	Parkhurst Racing	L Danson	9160
17	Toms Tankers	T Reynolds	9150
18	Freaks	F Retkowsky	9147
19	Formula Uno	P Tabone	9141
20	Rude F 1 Engineering	R Dodoo	9137
20	Midnight Ravers	C Newman	9137
20	Cyclops	R Bohee	9137
20	Hastings Hot Rods	P Clifford	9137
20	Goldfinch	S Goldfinch	9137
20	Panchella	D Pembroke	9137

MAKE THREE SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR GROUPS BELOW

The first column of figures, in light type after the names below, shows the Fantasy Formula One race scores for the Italian GP. The second column shows the total points in the competition so far.

DRIVERS

GROUP A			GROUP B		
01 D Hill	49	872	13 J Trulli*	106	1414
02 M Schumacher	108	1576	14 J Verstappen	9	797
03 J Villeneuve	105	1312	15 U Katayama	-2	739
04 E Irvine	102	1169	16 P Diniz	4	627
05 J Alesi	133	1436	17 R Rosset	0	0
06 G Berger	100	1132	18 R Schumacher	48	879
07 M Hakkinen	110	1002	19 G Fisichella	107	1223
08 D Coulthard	149	1047	20 S Nakano	100	941
09 R Barrichello	89	623	21 G Morbidelli*	101	1136
10 H-H Frentzen	118	1132	22 T Marques*	94	828
11 J Herbert	43	1060	23 J Magnussen	35	642
12 M Salo	31	1018	24 V Sospiri	0	0

CONSTRUCTORS

GROUP C			GROUP D		
25 Williams	24	175	31 Arrows	-20	-44
26 Ferrari	21	229	32 Sauber	5	140
27 McLaren	30	114	33 Tyrrell	-20	-14
28 Benetton	25	250	34 Minardi	3	32
29 Jordan	13	124	35 Stewart	4	-110
30 Prost	17	143	36 Lola	0	0

*Jarno Trulli of Minardi replaces Olivier Panis in the Prost team. Tarso Marques replaces Trulli at Minardi and at Sauber Gianni Morbidelli, who originally replaced Nicola Larini, replaces Fontana

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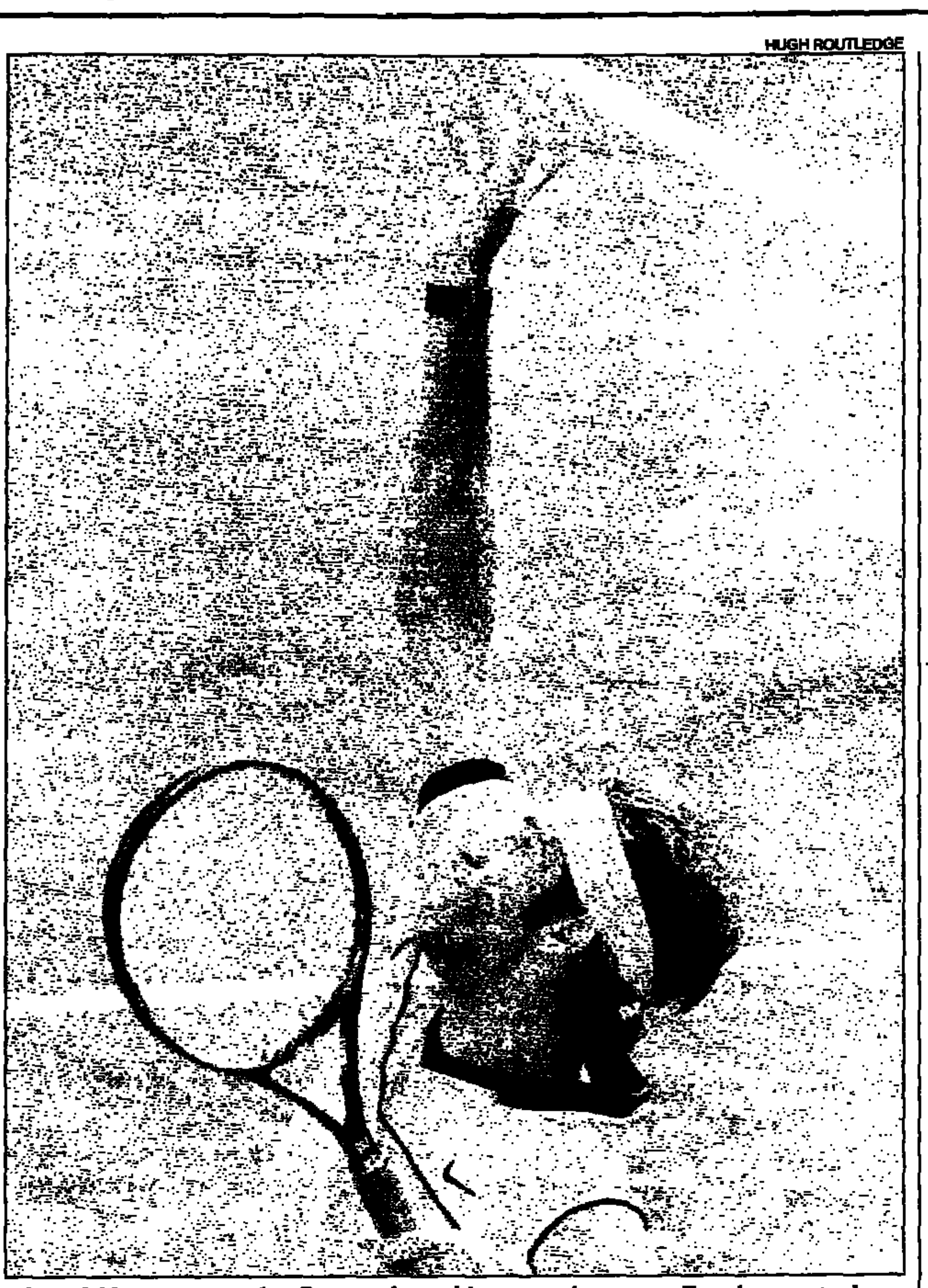
TENNIS

Exhausted Rusedski pushed to the limit

By Alix Ramsay

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Rusedski prepares another fiery service on his way to victory over Fromberg yesterday

THERE is a saying that genius is ten per cent inspiration and 90 per cent perspiration. Yesterday, Greg Rusedski discovered that mere survival as one of the top tennis players in the world depends on rather more perspiration than that, while progress can require near superhuman efforts.

Rusedski made his way into the quarter-finals of the Samsung Open in Bournemouth with a 7-6, 7-6 victory over Richard Fromberg, but there were times when it was touch and go. The win protected his ranking of No 11 in the world, but he will have to wait a while yet until he achieves his great ambition of breaking into the top ten. That would involve Rusedski reaching the final here — and that could be tricky.

Yesterday, he played considerably better than in the first round, against Alberto Martin, but it was a titanic struggle. Still recovering from the mental and physical exertions of the past couple of weeks, he had to force himself to greater efforts to stand a chance of winning.

Fromberg is not one of the leading lights of the tennis circuit, but he is most at home on a clay court and has a reputation for digging in for a good, long scrap. That was the last thing that Rusedski needed after all he has been through recently.

Everything looked like an effort. The first ace — there were only two — was almost half an hour in coming, the first service was sporadic in the first set and, when he got a hint of a chance on Fromberg's service, he could do nothing with it. Yet, as the set headed for a tie-break, there was light at the end of the tunnel: few men have beaten Rusedski in the shootout this year.

With the first set under his belt, Rusedski began to look more secure. Although he appeared exhausted between points, he refused to give in and, as the grunts became increasingly desperate, he managed to break Fromberg to take a 2-1 lead in the second set.

However, as Rusedski served for the match, he was broken. Suddenly, even walking to the umpire's chair looked beyond him. Still, he has learnt a lot in the past few months as he has climbed the rankings ladder. Having run out of steam at Wimbledon in the quarter-finals against Cedric Pioline, he has discovered how to avoid it happening again.

"I'm more tired now than I was against Pioline, but I learnt a lesson from that match," he said. "Mentally, sometimes you can make your body go on and on, even when your body is saying no. It's a case of getting the mind to say 'I can do it' and then just keeping going.

"I'm physically exhausted and every day I'm trying to push my body to the absolute limit, but I'm trying to compete mentally. After the match, I was shattered. I didn't even know where I was. If it had gone to three sets, I don't know if I could have won."

With so much at stake, Rusedski is determined to go on until he drops to make the breakthrough into the top ten. The complex calculations that govern the ATP Tour rankings have even the experts foxed at times and after this win, Rusedski thought he had achieved his goal. Now he has discovered that there is more work to do. First on the list is Lucas Arnold, from Argentina, who reached the quarter-finals by beating Johan van Herck, from Belgium, 6-1, 7-5. If he gets through that today, Rusedski will most likely face Carlos Moyá, of Spain, who has hardly been troubled so far this week.

"Today was a big match for me because I want to be in the top ten and it would be nice to do it here in Bournemouth," Rusedski said. "I guess now that to do it I'll have to win the tournament, but I'm looking forward to Monday, when the ranking list comes out and I can just sit back and enjoy it and enjoy the US Open. And enjoy my run at Bournemouth."

Results, page 38

GOLF

Ballesteros cashes in chips

From Mel Webb at Saint-Nôm-la-Bretèche

AN ENTIRE book could be written on the number of seemingly impossible strokes that Severiano Ballesteros has played in his time, but the one he pulled out of his box of tricks yesterday was special even by his exalted lights.

Ballesteros was coming to the end of his first round in the Lancôme Trophy when he produced The Shot. It is a pity that there were not more people to witness it, for it was a blow that would have stretched the credulity even of those who are career believers in the mystical charm that Ballesteros sometimes exerts over a golf ball.

The Stroke was called for only because of the mess that he had made of the one that preceded it. Not that that in itself is anything new. He has always been capable of making a Horlicks of routine strokes and uniquely able to bale out of bother when a combination of hands, eyes and vision are called for.

This was just such a situation. He came to the tee on the 6th, his 15th. The hole, a short par five, is a right-to-left dogleg and Ballesteros tried to cut off the angle and failed.

He found himself behind a clump of trees on the left and appeared to have no shot beyond a bale-out chip. It would have been the safe exit, the prudent escape, but the words "safe" and "prudent" have no place in this man's lexicon.

He looked, then looked again. There was a gap ahead of him in the spinney that was so small and so near the ground that only he would consider it a viable target. The problem was that he could not play the shot and remain vertical; so he knelt down.

Imagine it. He was on his knees, four-wood in hand. The toe of the club was facing the sky, he could not get more than an inch of clubface on the ball. He took another look, had a couple of practice swings, swung flat round his body and made contact. The ball scooted through the tiny opening, bent to its master's will and stopped 180 yards away just in front of the green.

People have had commemorative plaques erected for lesser shots. The chip that followed was slightly ham-fisted, but, typically, he made the putt for an unlikely birdie.

The shot was one of only 65 that Ballesteros played, his best round of a hitherto dismal season and one that left him sharing the lead with Peter O'Malley. "It was my best golf for three or four years," he said. "I had more fun today than I have had for a very long time.

"I was happy, relaxed and confident with my swing. It was like the old days." Yes, but why, after such a miserable year? "Just … because," he said with a small smile. Just because … the man is a genius. For once, the word is nothing but the truth. Just a genius.

Scores 38

EQUESTRIANISM

King and Stark give Britain early lead

By Jenny MacArthur

BRITAIN, the defending champions, have taken an early lead in the Burghley Pedigree Chum Open European three-day-event championships after impressive performances from the first two team members, Mary King, on Star Appeal, and Ian Stark, on Arakai. King is in third place on 47.2 with Stark, showing a dramatic improvement since Badminton, where he was fiftieth after the dressage, fourth on 47.8.

Piia Pantsu, of Finland, leads the individual event after a beautifully-ridden test on Cyna, the Polish-bred mare on which she finished fifth at the 1995 Open European championships in Pratoni. Pantsu, 26, who is based with Jan Jonssen, the Sweden team trainer, at Flyinge, was one of the few to produce correct "flying changes" in the canter work and was rewarded with high marks from the three judges.

Andrew Nicholson, an Olympic team bronze medal-winner in Atlanta, lifted the in-form New Zealand team into second place after his best test to date on Selina Boyce's prolific winner, Dawdle. The nine-year-old gelding is inclined to tense up in the dressage phase, but lengthy working-in yesterday produced a light and relaxed test.

Star Appeal was less relaxed, but King, a skilful dressage rider, has a knack of directing the eyes of the judges away from small mistakes. Admitting that her flying changes are still "far from established", she was delighted with her good score.

The Mark Phillips-trained United States team, the Olympic silver medal-winners, are fifth after a disappointing test from Bruce Davidson on his 1995 Badminton winner, Eagle Lion, but with David O'Connor, the Badminton winner this year, competing today, they are unlikely to stay out of contention.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 38

BEVIS

(b) *Henry VI, Part II*. A follower of Cade on the grounds that "virtue is not regarded in handicrafts-men". Unlike his more bloodthirsty colleagues he is quiet and honest.

LYSANDER

(c) *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A young man in love with Hermia. In contrast with the hot-headed Demetrius, he is unsmiling and serious, but no less fervent for all that.

PINCH

(b) *The Comedy of Errors*. A charlatan brought by Adriana to drive out the spirits supposedly driving Antipholus II mad. He has only a dozen lines, but they are in orotund quack's jargon.

BASSET

(c) *Henry VI, part I*. A follower of Somerset and member of the red-rose faction.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Ne4! 2 Qc2 (forced, to defend the rook on d1, if 2 Rxd8 Nxc5 3 Rxd8+ Kg7 and Black wins on material) 2 ... Rxd1+ 3 Qxd1 Nc3 and Black emerges a piece ahead.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

Nationwide League

First division

Bury v Manchester City (7 45) ..

Third division

Colchester v Scarborough (7.45) ......

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: *Premier division*: Bohemians v Shamrock Rovers (7 45)

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hassocks v Horsham YMCA.

FA CUP: First qualifying round: Solihull v Burton; Staines v Bromley

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance

county championship

10 30: third day of four, 104 overs minimum

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Somerset

CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Essex

SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Sussex

LORD'S: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Leicestershire

THE OVAL: Surrey v Lancashire

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Derbyshire

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Kent

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of four: Bristol: Gloucestershire v Worcestershire. Final day of three: Chelmsford: Essex v Derbyshire. Bournemouth SC: Hampshire v Kent. Old Trafford: Lancashire v Surrey. Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Sussex. Taunton: Somerset v Middlesex. Kenilworth Wardens: Warwickshire v Northants.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Cup

Pool A

Leinster v Leicester (at Donnybrook, 5 30) .. .. ..

European Conference

Pool C

Dax v London Irish (7 0) . . . .

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Premiership

Quarter-final

St Helens v Salford (7.30) ....

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: European three-day event (at Burghley)

GOLF: Men's home internationals (at Burnham and Berrow); Women's home internationals (at Lahinch, Ireland); Clubhaus Seniors' Classic (at The Warwickshire)

MOTOR RALLYING: Manx Rally

SPEEDWAY: *Elite League*: *Belle Vue v Poole* (7 30); Peterborough v Coventry (7 45). Premier League: Arena Essex v Isle of Wight (8 0). Edinburgh v Reading (7.30); Oxford v Newport (7.30), Oxford v Berwick (9 0). Amateur League: Belle Vue v Exeter and Newport (9 0); Peterborough v Reading and Swindon (7.0).

TENNIS: Samsung Open (at Bournemouth).

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS WEEKEND?

ARE YOU SURE?

THE MOST UP-TO-DATE WEATHER FORECAST. MORNINGS ON SKY. 24 HOURS ON CABLE.

THE WEATHER CHANNEL

TELEVISION CHOICE

Now a double memorial

BBC Proms 97

BBC2, 7.30pm

The penultimate night of the Proms comes live from the Albert Hall and features Verdi's Requiem, a choral blockbuster, which was among the favourite works of the late Diana, Princess of Wales. Sir Georg Solti, who was to have conducted the work, long associated with him, had discussed making this a memorial to the Princess; she was patron of the London Symphony Chorus, who are taking part. Sir Georg's sudden death, last Friday, means that tonight is now a memorial to both. Sir Colin Davis conducts. Settings of the Mass have been a theme of the 1997 Proms and Verdi's work, first given in 1874, is one of the most powerful examples in the repertoire. The four soloists are Michèle Crider (soprano), Olga Borodina (mezzo), Frank Lopardo (tenor) and René Pape (bass), with the London Voices, the London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra.

The Practice

ITV, 9.00pm

David E. Kelley, who gave us *LA Law* and *Chicago Hope*, is the man behind this legal drama set in Boston. The focus is on a small law firm staffed by a group of eager young advocates who tend to put idealism before paying the bills. They are more interested in righting wrongs, especially for the less privileged, than exacting huge fees. How long this admirable altruism can survive promises to be a theme of the series. Meanwhile, the head of the practice (Dylan McDermott) is soon in action defending a 17-year-old girl accused of possessing cocaine and the firm's newest recruit (Kelli Williams) takes on a tobacco giant. The courtroom scenes are less than gripping and, so far at least, characterisation is thin. But the formula has potential and Kelley's track record suggests we should be patient.

QED: Challenging Children

BBC1, 10.20pm (Scotland 11.10pm)

The second challenging child of this series is five-year-old Jordan, who suffers from autism. This means he can make no sense of the world, has no imagination or social skills and is prone to screaming fits. The cause is a biological brain disorder which the experts say is irreversible. The strain on the boy's family is immense, but his parents, Peter and Jackie Broadrick, refuse to believe that he cannot improve. Instead of sending Jordan to residential school they raise £17,000 to pay for a pioneering therapy in the United States. Central to it is placing Jordan into a special playroom and gaining his trust. Charlotte Howarth's film is not the story of a miracle cure. Rather, it shows the long, patient and difficult process, with many setbacks along the way, by which Jordan is coaxed back towards normal life.

The Broadrick family (BBC1, 10.20pm)

Jo Brand: Like It Or Lump It

Channel 4, 10.30pm

Once, at an hour when children were likely to be watching, television screened a Jo Brand routine which was exquisitely timed, very funny and contained not even a hint of strong language or contentious material. In other words she was playing the traditional stand-up comic and doing it brilliantly. Her detractors will say this is evidence that she does not need to be offensive to be effective. But there are plenty of supporters of the other Brand, the one who delights to shock, and this version should be well to the fore in this new series, based on a national tour. Each show comes from a different venue (these include a chocolate factory, a knicker factory and a fire station) and mixes stand-up with sketches and documentary footage. Prepare to be outraged. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

Lost in London

Radio 3, 9.00pm

This daily series on the lost concert halls of London has produced a wealth of fascinating information but its principal service has been as a warning against carelessness: we are altogether too prone to allowing important buildings simply to be lost, either completely or in their original form, through a lack of vigilance. The series is presented by Andrew Green, whose enthusiasm for, and sadness concerning the loss of, great building is palpable and perfectly justified. The last programme, today, is about Queen's Hall, which happens to have been adjacent to Broadcasting House. The loss of this, the first venue of the Proms, can be blamed on the Nazis rather than planners: firebombs destroyed the hall in 1941

BBC Proms 97

Radio 3, 7.30pm

Tonight's concert was to have been conducted by Sir Georg Solti and he had requested that the evening be dedicated to Diana, Princess of Wales. Within days of that request being made Sir Georg himself died. His place is taken by Sir Colin Davis with the evening now becoming a double tribute. The fact that tonight's work is Verdi's Requiem lends additional poignancy to the evening, given the death of Solti and the continuing national mood following the death of Diana. Tonight's is the penultimate Prom and the Verdi is the last of this season's explorations of the Mass. The performers tonight include Michèle Crider (soprano), Olga Borodina (mezzo) London Voices and the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greening **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Mary Anne Hobbs **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Dave Pearce **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Pete Tong — Essential Selection **10.00** One in the Jungle **12.00** Radio 1 Rap Show with Tim Westwood **3.00am** Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up To Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Denis Quilley Shares The Best of Times **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **9.15** The Tailor of Panama. John Le Carré continues the reading of his latest novel **9.30** Listen to the Band **10.00** Sheridan Morley **12.05am** Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Julian Worricker Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.30** Alan Green's Sportstalk. A new sporting discussion show **8.30** Friday Sport. Includes second half commentary from Bury v Manchester City **10.00** Paper Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night with Richard Dallyn

TALK RADIO

5.00am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin **7.00** **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** Mike Allen **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST**. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newshour **6.30** Europe **7.15** World Today **7.30** Close Encounters: Contemporary Life in an English Cathedral **7.45** The Way We Are **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Music Review **9.00** News in German **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Performance **9.30** John Peel **10.05** Business **10.15** The Learning World **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.30** U.F.Os: Fact, Fiction or Fantasy **12.30pm** Focus on Faith **1.00** News in German **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Computers at Work **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.05** Football Extra **4.15** A Step too Far **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.40** Spotlight **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.30** Focus on Faith **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** People and Politics **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack **1.30** From the Weeklies **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Code Breakers **2.45** Insider's Guide **2.55** Spotlight **3.30** At the Shoulder of History **4.05** Business **4.15** Sports Roundup **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

3.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Lunchtime Requests **2.00** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight **7.30** Sonata **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin. Includes Nocturne **2.00am** Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Robin Banks **6.00** Paul Coyte **10.00** Alan Freeman **12.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Poulenc (Suite: Les Biches); Mendelssohn (String Symphony No 10 in B minor); Debussy, compl Ducasse (Rhapsody for Alto Saxophone); Granados (Danzas Espanolas); Brahms (Overture: Academic Fesitval); Telemann (Partita No 2 in G, Kleine Kammermusik)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Catriona Young. Includes Honegger (Pastorale d'Ete); Villa-Lobos (Bachiana Brasiliera No 5), Chopin (Polonaise-Fantasie in A flat, Op 61); Debussy (La Mer)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza. Includes Scriabin (Prelude in C sharp minor, Op 16 No 5); Straus (German Motet); Brahms (Violin Sonata No 1 in G, Op 78); Bernstein (Concerto for Orchestra, Jubilee Games); Chopin (Nocturne in F sharp minor, Op 48 No 2); Bruch (Violin Concerto No 1 in G minor)
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Verdi
1.00pm News; Pisendel at the Court of Dresden. Presented by Nicholas Anderson. Collegium Musicum 90, under Simon Standage. Vivaldi (Sinfonia in F for strings); Albinoni (Violin Concerto in A); Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in G); Pisendel (Violin Concerto in G); Valentini (Concerto in A, Op 9 No 9); Vivaldi (Sinfonia in F, RV135); Pisendel (Concerto in D) (r)
2.00 BBC Proms 97. Another chance to hear Tuesday's concert. Emanuel Ax, piano, European Youth Orchestra under Bernard Haitink. Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4 in G); Bruckner (Symphony No 7 in E) (r)
4.00 Mining the Archives: Georg Solti. Edward Seckerson introduces highlights from a BBC recording of Solti's 1966 Covent Garden production of *Der Rosenkavalier* with Josephine Veasey, soprano, as Octavian, Sena Jurinac, soprano, as Marschallin and Joan Carlyle, soprano, as Sophie
5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson. The students of the Quenn Katherine School at Kendal are challenged to produce a dance track using sounds recorded in the town (r)
5.15 In Tune, with Jeremy Nicholas. Includes Parry (My Soul There Is a Country, Songs of Farewell), Herrmann (Aria from Salammbo, Citizen Kane); Haydn (Symphony No 45 in F sharp minor, Farewell)
7.30 BBC Proms 97. See Choice. The penultimate Prom is a dual tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, and the conductor Sir Georg Solti, who died on September 5. With Michèle Crider, soprano, Olga Borodina, mezzo, Frank Lopardo, tenor, René Pape, bass. London Voices, Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Sir Colin Davis. Verdi (Requiem)
9.00 Lost in London. See Choice (5/5)
9.20 Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. The great German baritone sings lieder by Schubert, with Benjamin Britten and Sviatoslav Richter at the piano
9.45 Hear and Now. Germaine Greer introduces a concert, given last July at the West Road Concert Hall in Cambridge, of Australian music from the last three decades. Includes Nigel Butterley (Laudes, first UK performance); Richard Meale (Incredible Floridas); Barry Conyngham (Dwellings, first UK performance); Julian Yu (First Australian Suite, first UK perfromance)
11.30 Proms Composer of the Week: Schubert (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather talks to the playwright, and jazz lover, Alan Plater
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today. Includes Thought for the Day **8.45** Personal History, by Katharine Graham (10/10)
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs. Sue Lawley's guest is the singer Sir Frank Kermode (r)
9.45 Feedback. Chris Dunkley airs listeners' complaints about BBC programming
10.00 News; Libel. The barrister Manuel Barca presents the dramatised case of Whistler v Ruskin. Ruskin accused Whistler of "flinging a pot of paint in the public's face" when he exhibited *Nocturne in Black and Gold*
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Wendy Austin broadcasting from Belfast
11.30 The Natural History Programme. Presented by Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Derek Cooper's Necessary Pleasures. A celebration of the cabbage family (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Alex Brodie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: The Aspern Papers. The second and final part of Jane Beeson's dramatisation of the novel by Henry James. With Angela Pleasence and Moira Lister (2/2)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlow examines a new exhibition by the photographer Don McCullin at the Barbican Centre in London. Plus a review of Shakespeare's *Henry V* at Stratford-upon-Avon
4.45 Short Story: Morrisey, by Rob Gittins. Read by Suzanne Packer
5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places. Presented by David Stafford. Includes a look nehind the scenes of some of England's stately homes
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with Chris Serle
8.05 Hype or Hypothesis. Jaz Nelson chairs a scientific discussion on the state of the planet
8.50 Three Writers in Search of a Character. John Florance talks to Leslie Chamberlain, Ben Macintyre and Lavinia Murray about the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche (2/4)
9.15 Letter from America, with Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: To the Lighthouse, by Virginia Woolf. Read by Eileen Atkins (10/10) (r)
11.00 Do Go On. The second of a four-part lighthearted discussion series with Ainsley Elliot and guests. Tonight's panel includes the geneticist Jeff Dodman, Griff Rhys Jones and Graeme Garden
11.25 Tea Junction. A sideways look at the week's events with Patrick Hannan and guests
11.45 Beyond the Millennium. In the first of six programmes, the Japanese economist Noriko Hama predicts a radically different European Union in 2010
12.00 News Includes **12.28am** approx Weather
12.30am Late Book: The Debt to Pleasure, by John Lanchester. Read by Tim Pigott-Smith (4/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast (LW)
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089.

Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Normal service of life and death restored

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

After everything that has happened, there was something comforting, almost cathartic, about an evening that welcomed back so many old friends. The return of *Casualty*, the continuation of a cracking *Taggart* (as opposed to a tagging *Cracker*) and a new series of *Horizon*, was the signal we had been waiting for: the autumn season was at last under way. The fact that you needed two video recorders to watch all three simply confirmed it.

The trite thing to say is that their return was also a signal that television life was getting back to normal. But — and there is no tiptoeing round the unpalatable fact — all three were reminders that what was actually getting back to normal was television death. None more so than **Casualty** (BBC1), where we know full well that despite the gallant efforts of Charlie, Baz and co a certain proportion of their patients are not going to make it to the final credits. How this produces the warm feeling of "oh goody, *Casualty's* back" I don't know. But it does. Most nights.

Mind you, it was touch and go last night and you could see why the schedulers had had such trouble (the episode had been postponed twice) finding an appropriate slot. For a start, nothing much happened for the first half an hour. Somebody had a baby, a postcard arrived which, I think, said that Matt and Jude had got married (it was difficult to hear, too many people were talking) and the annual intake of new characters arrived. Among the last, the most promising appears to the new hospital manager who, played by the marvellously sinister Peter Guinness, is virtually the Devil incarnate. Charlie's going to get awfully twitchy.

The problem with nothing happening for half an hour in *Casualty*, however, is that when it does you know it's going to be big. Sure enough, as storylines converged on Holby town centre, the shopping centre was rocked by an authentic-looking bomb explosion.

Now, apart from the grisly aftermath which you could be forgiven for not being in the mood for, some might feel that it was unfortunate to have a bomb explosion in the middle of an IRA ceasefire. But nothing like as unfortunate as a couple of years ago, when the BBC's enthusiastic embrace of the initial peace process resulted in a whole raft of strongly pro-Ireland dramas seeing the light of day... just as the bombs started going off again. At least, this way round, nobody gets disappointed.

From then it was pretty much *Casualty* as normal. Some died (mainly those whose husbands hadn't been watching *999*) and some survived; some of the new characters got on with the established regulars and some didn't. As for the fortuitous vilification of the press that I mentioned on Monday, it was well wide of the mark. Taking intrusive photographs of princesses is one thing, but to describe photographers covering a bomb explosion as "paparazzi" is plain ridiculous.

All that said, I was still pleased to see it back and the best thing is — there are still 25 episodes to come. By contrast, there is only one more instalment of the current three-part Taggart (ITV) to go. But I'm looking forward to that as I haven't looked forward to a *Taggart* episode for some time.

I've never subscribed to the view that the series couldn't survive without Mark McManus, but since his death the trio who remain — James MacPherson as Mike Jardine, Blythe Duff as Jackie Reid and Ian Anders as McVitie — have been let down by scripts that have been lightweight, clichéd and disappointingly straightforward. More than once it seemed that *Taggart* was even being played for laughs.

That being the case then, *Baboushka*, written by Robert Smith, represents several steps in the right direction. It's complex (cleverly it was even less clear what was going on at the end of last night's episode than it had been at the end of the first) and it's menacing, the latter considerably aided and abetted by an impressively intense performance from Paul Ireland as the surly Duncan. Almost certainly he didn't murder Hollis, the wealthy timber merchant with a fatal weakness for blondes, but that's by the by.

There are still glimpses of humour — Reid's backchat, Fraser's on-site interviews — but they are far more controlled than they have been in the recent past. One minute a wronged wife is theatrically throwing cups at walls, the next it's sulphuric acid at the face of beautiful but mysterious Ukrainians. She missed, but McManus, I think, would still have approved.

Death on an infinitely larger scale was the theme of **Horizon** (BBC2), but as the mass extinction of the dinosaurs took place some 65 million years ago I thought I could probably cope. That was until I learnt that the last thoughts of most dinosaurs would have been: "Ouch, what a particularly severe case of sunburn." And with that most of them were dead, extinct, the full fossilised disaster. Poor big things.

The story of how they met their death seemed a curious one to kick off a new series, because the suggestion that it was a comet smashing into the Earth has been around for nearly 20 years now. But rarely will you find a complex scientific story unravelled with the clarity it was last night. My abiding memory, however, will be of the late Gene Shoemaker, cheerfully discussing the odds on a comet striking Earth again, little knowing that it was the odds on a road traffic accident in Australia that ought to have been his more immediate concern. Suddenly I felt sad: death had become real again.

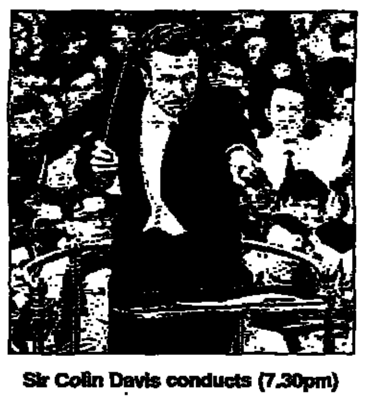
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (68947)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (98185299)
9.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (2023096)
9.30 Style Challenge (1861096)
9.55 Kilroy (T) (5810657)
10.35 Change That (1993183)
11.00 News (T) and weather (4265251)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (T) (9205270)
11.35 Room for Improvement (2876270)
12.00 News (T) and weather (6735473)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (9013164)
12.35 Going for a Song (9926725)
1.00 News (T) and weather (59102)
1.30 Regional News and weather (T) (17813251)
1.40 The Weather Show (87778164)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (77556744)
2.10 Quincy (2/2) Quincy and Dr Carlisle work against the clock to identify the cause of an epidemic (r) (6398873)
3.00 Through the Keyhole (7277812)
3.25 Playdays (r) (7296947) **3.50** Dear Mr Barker (1926812) **4.05** Bananaman (T) (3069589) **4.10** To Me, to You (T) (4003589) **4.35** Agent Z and the Penguin from Mars (r) (T) (6097928) **5.00** Newsround (T) (9492164) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (5381560)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (603611)
6.00 News (T) and weather (251)
6.30 Regional News (T) (831)
7.00 Weekend Watchdog The Holiday Rescue team investigate a typhoid outbreak in the Dominican Republic; "antiques" in Brighton; and how some removal men add to the pain of moving house (T) (3096)
7.30 Top of the Pops Exclusives, new videos and live performances, plus a rundown of the Top 40 (T) (265)
8.00 Vets in Practice It's Christmas, but there's no rest for the young vets Emma and Hannah (T) (2744)
8.30 Keeping Up Appearances Hyacinth plots to rescue Richard from social obscurity (r) (T) (1251)
9.00 News (T) regional news and weather (3831)
9.30 Dangerfield: Perfect Witness The police face difficulties when they suspect a common link between two rape victims diagnosed with hepatitis. Can Dangerfield help? (T) (989831)
10.20 QED: Challenging Children One family's quest to communicate with their autistic son (T) (938909)
11.20 Escape to Victory (1981) starring FILM Sylvester Stallone and Michael Caine. How a group of Allied prisoners-of-war plotted their escape by taking on their captors in a football match. Directed by John Huston (169386)
1.10am The Incident (1990) starring Walter FILM Matthau, Susan Blakely and Robert Carradine. A drama about a has-been lawyer defending a German officer accused of murder in a Colorado prisoner-of-war camp in 1941. Directed by Joseph Sargent (7509503)
2.40 Weather (7224752)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: The World of the Dragon (4800299) **6.25** Social Scientists at Work (5982763)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (4750454)
7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (6841831) **7.55** Cartoon Critters (r) (5853909) **8.20** William's Wish Wellingtons (1693675) **8.25** Wishing (7503763) **8.35** Teletubbies (1435299) **9.00** Harry and the Hendersons (2022367) **9.25** Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars (3228589) **9.45** Rocky Star (8023386) **9.50** Tom and Jerry (8004251) **10.00** Teletubbies (18367)
10.30 The Strawberry Blonde (b/w, 1941) FILM James Cagney and Olivia de Havilland star in this romantic comedy. Directed by Raoul Walsh (17063893)
12.05pm The Phil Silvers Show (3218299)
12.30 Working Lunch (17541)
1.00 The Little Polar Bear (73836947) **1.05** Pingu (73835218) **1.10** The Craft Hour (8136367) **2.15** A Day That Shook the World (32204893)
2.20 Racing from Goodwood Julian Wilson introduces the **2.40**, **3.10** and **3.40** races (550657) **4.00** Ready, Steady, Cook (744) **4.30** Going, Going, Gone (6096299)
4.55 International Tennis Quarter-finals of the Open at Bournemouth (8584812)
6.00 Star Trek (r) (T) (216314)
6.50 The X Philes (686893)
7.00 Top Gear Motorsport World Trials Championship in California and the Czech Republic. Plus: 30th anniversary celebrations of Formula Vee and Eurocar action from Mallory Park (T) (1638)



Sir Colin Davis conducts (7.30pm)

7.30 BBC Proms '97 Live from the Albert Hall. Sir Colin Davis conducts Verdi's Requiem. Introduced by James Naughtie. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 3 (37386)
9.00 Bottom Richie and Eddie's world falls apart (r) (T) (1473)
9.30 Shooting Stars: The Best Bits (1/2) (T) (37305)
10.00 Room 101 Comedian Arthur Smith is the guest (T) (98928)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (162299)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (345893)
11.15 VR 5 Sci-fi drama, starring Lori Singer (320744)
12.00 Light Sleeper *(1991) Middle-aged drug* FILM *dealer* Willem Dafoe tires of life in the seedy New York underworld. Also with Susan Sarandon. Written and directed by Paul Schrader (T) (539329)
1.40am Grand Central Murder (b/w, 1942) FILM With Van Heflin, Patricia Dane and Cecilia Parker. Investigating the murder of an actress on a train Directed by Sylvan Simon (1855232)
2.50 Weather (7324706)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (7666015)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (2012980)
9.55 Regional News (T) (1579541)
10.00 The Time, the Place (52913)
10.30 This Morning Including at **10.55** News, local news and weather (18387744)
12.20pm HTV News (6731657) (18387744)
12.30 News (T) and weather (9912522)
12.55 Dogs with Dunbar (9920541) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (58654102) **1.25** Home and Away (r) (T) (58654102) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (r) (3861386) **2.50** Garden Calendar (T) (6231015) **3.19** HTV Crimestoppers (4261034)
3.20 ITN News (T) (4268947)
3.25 Regional News (T) (4267218)
3.30 Jays' World (1917164) **3.40** Kipper (7750096) **3.50** Oscar and Friends (7749980) **4.00** Roger and the Rottentrolls (2083183) **4.15** Hurricanes (4097928) **4.40** Fun House (7687015)
5.10 A Country Practice (2836096)
5.40 News (T) and weather (280947)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (971724)
6.25 HTV Weather (900725)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (299)
7.00 Bruce's Price Is Right Bruce Forsyth presents the popular quiz (T) (8164)
7.30 Coronation Street Jim pleads with Fiona (T) (183)
8.00 The Bill The Sun Hill squad capture a gang of armed robbers, then discover one of their guns has gone missing (T) (7812)
8.30 Strange But True Michael Aspel introduces a new series of investigations into paranormal phenomena (T) (6947)

Dylan McDermott stars (9.00pm)

9.00 The Practice New American drama from the creator of *LA Law* and *Chicago Hope*. With Dylan McDermott, Camryn Manheim, Steve Harris, Kelli Williams (T) (5541)
10.00 News (T) (85454)
10.30 HTV News and Weather (743541)
10.40 Late and Live Chat show presented by Dave Barrett and Patricia Yorston. Tonight's guests include Lady Colin Campbell. Music is provided by Sweet Soul Sisters (9521305)
12.10am Short Story Cinema (3780435)
12.40 The Paul Ross Show (664394)
2.15 The Criminal (1960, b/w) Crime drama FILM with Stanley Baker, Margit Saad and Sam Wanamaker. Directed by Joseph Losey (728313)
3.55 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (r) (79083868)
4.20 Recollections (99863315)
4.35 Coach (r) (31637868)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (30503)
5.30 News (27400)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9920541)
2.50-3.20 Surprise Chefs (6231015)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2836096)
6.25-7.00 Central News (954928)
10.30 Central News (734893)
10.45 Film: Hexed (29045386)
2.10am The LADS (3970619)
2.40 Box Office America (8753961)
3.05 Baywatch (5310961)
3.50 Helter Skelter (4934665)
4.40 Central Jobfinder '97 (6224315)
5.20 Asian Eye (1306110)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6731657)
12.55 Home and Away (9920541)
1.25 Dressing Up (64333134)
1.55 Westcountry Update (77561676)
2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (9348198)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2836096)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (29386)
10.30 Westcountry News (734893)
10.45 Film: Hexed (29045386)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (9920541)
1.50 Serve You Right (77562305)
2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (8573367)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2836096)
6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (29386)
10.40 The Magic and Mystery Show (622454)
11.15 Weekly World News (770454)
11.45 Wiseguy (106003)
5.00am Freescreen (30503)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (9920541)
1.50 Countrywide (77562305)
2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (8573367)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2836096)
6.23 Anglia Weather (901454)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (954928)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (159725)
10.30 Anglia News Extra (94102)
11.00 Film: The Raven (1963) starring Vincent Price, directed by Roger Corman (840589)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (51657) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (49725) **9.00 Something So Right** (95831) **9.30 Film: The Magnificent Dope** (88522) **11.00 Food File** (6305) **11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier** (7034) **12.00 Sesame Street** (82367) **12.30pm Baby Baby** (19909) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (83193725) **1.15 Slot Syniadau Sali** (83181980) **1.30 The Potter, the Miner and the Papermaker** (68580) **2.00 Racing from Doncaster** (2454) **4.00 Bewitched** (812) **4.30 Out of Africa** (116) **5.00 5 Pump** (9270) **5.30 Countdown** (676) **6.00 Newyddion** (648473) **6.05 Heno** (171562) **6.35 Hollol Bananas** (917015) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (138831) **7.25 Byd Arall** (608657) **8.00 John Ac Alun** (5454) **8.30 Newyddion** (846305) **9.20 Y Byd ar Bedwar** (246102) **10.05 Brookside** (683305) **10.40 Friends** (269638) **11.10 Jo Brand Show: Like It or Lump It** (106096) **11.40 King of the Hill** (162812) **12.10am TFI Friday** (8812446) **1.10 Film: Police Story II** (835918) **3.10 Film: Arrowsmith** (677400)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (51657)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (49725)
9.00 Something So Right (95831)
9.30 The Magnificent Dope (1942, b/w) A FILM comedy starring Henry Fonda as the laziest man in America. Directed by Walter Lang (88522)
11.00 Food File (r) (T) (6305)
11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier Aubergine and cheese terrine; roast lamb and raisin couscous; pear clafouti (T) (7034)
12.00 Sesame Street (82367)
12.30pm Baby Baby (19909)
1.00 Light Lunch (r) (68544)
2.00 Racing from Doncaster Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **2.05**, **2.35**, **3.05** and **3.35** races (2454)
4.00 Bewitched (r) (T) (812) **4.30** Countdown (T) (6081367) **4.55** Ricki Lake (r) (T) (2243198) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (676)
6.00 TFI Friday with Chris Evans. The guests include Elton John (27928)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T). Includes weather at 7.30 (352831)
7.55 Yes Yes A final comic look at the Scottish vote on devolution (812541)
8.00 Garden Party The experts visit the Garden in Mind in West Sussex (T) (5454)
8.30 Brookside Rachel is horrified with the way Christian is treating her. Ollie grows concerned that he is losing Danny's affections (T) (4589)
9.00 Friends: The One Where Chandler Can't Remember Which Sister Rachel meets a handsome stranger; Chandler faces family problems (T) (400473)
9.35 Cybill: Kiss Me You Fool Jeff gets Cybill a part in his new film but he can't stop laughing every time he has to kiss her (T) (290251)
10.00 Frasier: Liar, Liar The radio shrink tries to help the troubled marriage of an old high school acquaintance (T) (83096)

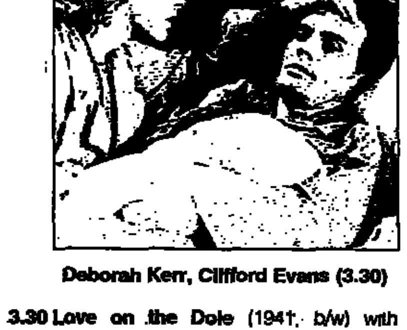
Jo Brand maps it out (10.30pm)

10.30 Jo Brand: Like It or Lump It The comedian's third series of stand-up and sketches (T) (624812)
11.05 King of the Hill News of Hank's constipation spreads (T) (107725)
11.35 TFI Friday (r) (785657)
12.35am Police Story 2 (1986) The first of a FILM season of kung fu movies. Jackie Chan directs and stars, as a Hong Kong detective demoted to traffic duty (602394)
2.35 Yes Yes (r) (7225481)
2.40 Arrowsmith (1931, b/w) Ronald Colman FILM stars as a doctor who leaves his comfortable practice to look for a cure for plague in the West Indies. Directed by John Ford (440023)
4.25 Takeover TV (r) (53469139) **4.55** Fluke (r) (31711874) **5.20** Rocko's Modern Life (2379597)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (7468812)
7.30 Wishbone (5622893)
8.00 Havakazoo (1215675)
8.30 WideWorld (2665116)
9.00 Espresso (7917657)
10.00 Exclusive (6181812)
10.30 The Car Show (2760760)
11.00 Leeza (1535218)
11.50 Give 5 (69857034)
12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (8065152)
12.30pm Family Affairs (9037812)
1.00 5 News Update (85101034)
1.05 Sunset Beach (8710386)
2.00 5's Company (8781947)



Deborah Kerr, Clifford Evans (3.30)

3.30 Love on the Dole (1941, b/w) with FILM Deborah Kerr, Clifford Evans and Joyce Howard. During the Depression of the 1930s, a young woman loses the man she loves and marries a sleazy older man to make ends meet. Directed by John Baxter (8864763)
5.20 Give 5 (11345473)
5.30 Move on Up (9260589)
6.00 100 Per Cent (9250102)
6.30 Family Affairs (9241454)
7.00 Name That Tune (8223725)
7.30 Exclusive (9278638)
7.55 Give 5 (6783386)
8.00 Attractions (8232473)
8.30 5 News (8211980)
9.00 Shattered Trust (1993) with Melissa FILM Gilbert, Ellen Burstyn and Kate Nelligan. A lawyer discovers she was sexually abused as a child by her father. Directed by Bill Corcoran (96608763)
10.50 La Femme Nikita A double agent discovers her best friend is not to be trusted (2659725)
11.45 Seduction: Three Tales from the Inner FILM **Sanctum** Victoria Principal portrays three women who find there is a price to pay when passion and desire are taken to the extreme (3446367)
1.25 am The Belarus File The lollypop-loving FILM Lieutenant Kojak (Telly Savalas) investigates the murder of Russian émigrés. Directed by Robert Markowitz (1365619)
3.15 Prince of Pirates (1953) with John Derek FILM as a swashbuckling pirate. Directed by Sidney Salkow (35945058)
4.35 The Streets of San Francisco (6763058)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7892394)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (199763) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (21928) **10.00** Another World (80096) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (93560) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (43980) **1.00pm** Geraldo (69928) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (66928) **3.00** Jenny Jones (52164) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (71299) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3251) **6.00** Real TV (9541) **6.30** Married — with Children (7913) **7.00** The Simpsons (4980) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9305) **8.00** Highlander (84251) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (72265) **10.00** Best of Ibiza (38560) **10.30** Eat My Sports! (14980) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (81725) **12.00** Late Show with Letterman (74961) **1.00am** Hit Mix (2107348)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Esther and the King (1960) (38454) **8.00 Imaginary Crimes (1994)** (40980) **10.00 All Hands on Deck (1961)** (81064386) **11.45 Cops and Robbersons (1994)** (52871347) **1.30pm Dreamer (1979)** (33391831) **3.15 Radioland Murders (1994)** (134218) **5.15 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (1995)** (89880218) **7.00 Imaginary Crimes (1994)** (87909) **9.00 Waiting to Exhale (1995)** (12034) **11.00 The Movie Show** (233744) **11.35 Dream Master: The Erotic Invader (1995)** (989095) **1.05am A Streetcar Named Desire (1995)** (27220690) **3.40 Dragstrip Girl (1994)** (59354936)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.05am The Brasher Doubloon (1947) (3038251) **7.20 The Scarlet Flower (1991)** (6997541) **8.35 The Son of Robin Hood (1958)** (5242298) **10.00 The Pride of Jesse Hallam (1981)** (86831) **12.00 Divorce, American Style (1967)** (527034) **1.55pm Thunder Birds (1942)** (7728473) **3.15 The Girl in the News (1940)** (6683454) **4.35 Black Beauty (1994)** (6889367) **6.05 Shake, Rattle and Rock! PG (1994)** (3009015) **7.30 UK Top 10** (2015) **8.00 Man of the House (1995)** (11305) **10.00 Dead Weekend (1995)** (833164) **11.35 Interview with the Vampire 18 (1994)** (23930314) **1.40am Cyclo (1995)** (35608481) **3.50 Call Me (1987)** (375431) **5.25 Joe at the Kingdom of the Bees (1972)** (5923955)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm A Farewell to Arms (1957) (1179657) **6.30 The Bellboy (1960)** (9661102) **8.00 Force 10 from Navarone (1978)** (3126454) **10.00 Internal Affairs (1990)** (5349015) **12.00 Dogfight (1991)** (7926226) **1.35am The Fall of the Roman Empire (1964)** (58518042) **4.30 Close**

TNT

8.00pm WCW Nitro (37108638) **9.00 Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid (1973)** (24486657) **11.15 Get Carter (1971)** (81901638) **1.15am Point Blank (1967)** (40524868) **3.00 The Hunger (1983)** (29147139) **5.00 Close**

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (10251) **7.30** Wrestling (55860) **8.30** Sports Centre (30541) **9.00** Racing News (21893) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (67183) **10.00** Full Throttle (69283) **10.30** Live Golf: Lancome Trophy (46744) **12.30pm** Boxing (36367) **2.30** World Sports Special (3102) **3.00** Live Golf: Lancome Trophy (26657) **5.00** Full Throttle (2928) **5.30** World Sport Special (4218) **6.00** Sports Centre (86218) **7.00** Live Super League (586980) **9.30** World Sport Special (81763) **10.00** Sports Centre (45386) **11.00** Hold the Back Page (36299) **12.00** Super League (18329) **2.00am** Sports Centre (34690) **3.00** Wrestling (72394) **5.00** Hold the Back Page (83787)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Oz Style (6109589) **7.30** Sports Centre (8188096) **8.00** Racing News (5171270) **8.30** Tennis: US Open (7707560) **11.30** Futbol Mundial (7602638) **12.00** Powerboat and Jetski World (5181657) **12.30pm** US Golf: CVS Charity Classic (5528560) **3.00** Sailing (9471589) **3.30** Powerboat and Jetski World (6582873) **4.00** Football League Review (1332170) **4.30** The Rugby Club (2263015) **6.00** Sailing (9530027) **6.30** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (6487229) **7.00** Live Friday Night Football (8789708) **10.00** US Golf: CVS Charity Classic (9916305) **12.30am** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (2248706) **1.00** World Sport Special (1218665) **1.30** Sailing (7560481) **2.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Gaelic Games (29055560) **1.00pm** Tight Lines (29031980) **2.00** Football Scrapbook (80899454) **3.30** Gaelic Games (93327560) **4.30** Trans World Sport (66760893) **5.30** Pool (84502096) **6.30** Sailing (31457831) **7.00** Golf (75798251) **10.00** Wrestling (59187638) **12.00** Close

EUROSPORT

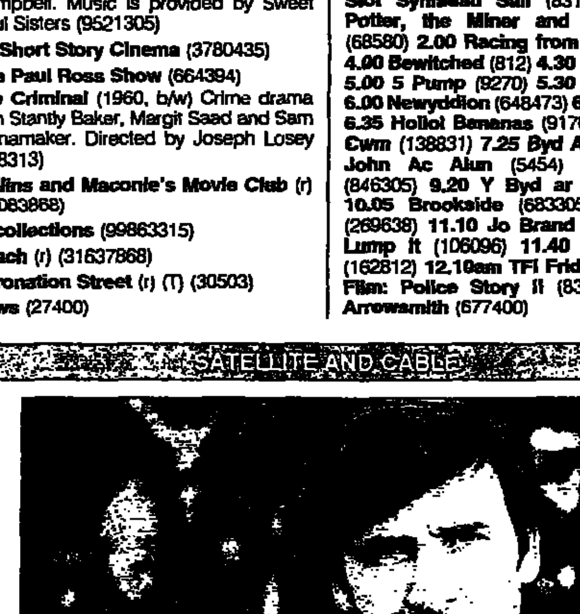
7.30am Motors (60812) **9.00** Football (15218) **11.00** Motorsports (33102) **12.00** Live Motorcycling (18305) **2.00am** Live Cycling (31589) **3.30** Live Tennis (853164) **6.00** Motorcycling (71386) **7.00** Tractor Pulling (31183) **8.00** Live Gymnastics (15893) **9.30** Sumo (23218) **10.30** Motorcycling (26744) **11.30** Boxing (35305) **12.30am** Close **5.30** Live Athletics (99428)

UK GOLD

7.00am Rentaghost (4397947) **7.35** Neighbours (9132305) **8.00** Crossroads (9610218) **8.25** EastEnders (3139947) **9.00** The Bill (6263034) **9.30** Howards' Way (4513183) **10.00** In Loving Memory (1900657) **10.30** The Sullivans (6269218) **11.00** Rockford Files (53411928) **12.05pm** Crossroads (72532015) **12.30** Neighbours (4524299) **1.00** EastEnders (2861201) **1.35** Two Ronnies (3316791) **2.35** After the Show (1907893) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (5751980) **3.00** The Bill (2401015) **4.00** Casualty (11940541) **5.05** EastEnders (1056724) **5.40** Bob's Full House (9782522) **6.20** Two Ronnies (4404473) **7.20** Dr Who (9626218) **7.50** Home to Roost (7385265) **8.20** Brush Strokes (8431299) **9.00** The Bill (2419034) **9.30** Rising Damp (8631893) **10.05** Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? (40998305) **11.15** Liver Birds (2496170) **12.30am** Oh No! It's Selwyn Froggitt (2652665) **1.05** Survivors (2885868) **2.00** Shopping (8903706)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am E! (1761170) **6.30** Beadle's About (6906522) **7.00** Coronation St (8656387) **7.30** Families (8678102) **8.00** Surprise Surprise (5430638) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (1961378) **10.00** Mission Impossible (8974386) **11.00** Sandbaggers (8654522) **12.00** Coronation St (5640725) **12.30pm** Families (1281744) **1.00** Blind Date (1286299) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (6921831) **3.00** Beadle's About (8284676) **3.30** Surgical Spirit (7182676) **4.00** Mission Impossible (4460314) **5.00** Sandbaggers (8275928) **6.00** Families (7171560) **6.30** Coronation St (7162812) **7.00** Blind Date (7944096) **8.00** Mission Impossible (7953744) **9.00** Coronation St (8060378) **9.30** Comedians (1261980) **10.00** Harry's Game (7943367) **11.00** Close



Ray Lonnen stars in *Harry's Game* (Granada Plus, 10.00pm)

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo (90096) **6.30** Lamb Chop (11015) **7.00** Chip 'n' Dale (42473) **7.30** Quack Pack (21980) **8.00** Dinosaurs (80560) **8.30** Bonkers (89831) **9.00** Gummi Bears (70183) **9.30** Grounding Marsh (16473) **10.00** Sesame Street (27164) **11.00** Hunny Pot (5370676) **11.15** Rosie and Jim (4512638) **11.40** Sing Me a Story (2530639) **12.00** Big Garage (7957218) **12.45pm** Winnie the Pooh (25270096) **1.00** Sesame Street (15744) **2.00** Amazing Animals (1218) **2.30** Care Bears (6638) **3.00** Tale Spin (8025) **3.30** Goof Troop (1183) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (9378) **4.30** Aladdin (9102) **5.00** Gargoyles (5270) **5.30** Dinosaurs (9134) **6.00** Nightmare Ned (7367) **6.30** Wonder Years (1947) **7.00** Wayne Manifesto (5034) **7.30 FILM: Son of the Pink Panther** (14096) **9.00** Second Noah (75541) **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Delly (6703102) **6.30** Billy the Cat (2735034) **7.00** Pinocchio (4382763) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (4381270) **8.00** Beetleborgs (8973015) **8.30** Masked Rider (8972386) **9.00** The Magic Box (8963638) **9.30** Dudley the Dragon (6271015) **10.00** Inspector Gadget (2726386) **10.30** Samurai Pizza Cats (8952622) **11.00** Sweet Valley High (4387218) **12.00** Ace Ventura (8976102) **12.30pm** Casper (6275831) **1.00** The Tick (4381034) **1.30** Iron Man (6274102) **2.00** Fantastic Four (9446454) **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo (1986947) **3.00** Beetleborgs (9465589) **3.30** Masked Rider (1958164) **4.00** Ace Ventura (1977299) **4.30** Casper (1986183) **5.00** The Tick (9460034) **5.30** X Men (1980763) **6.00** Spiderman (1987676) **6.30** Sweet Valley High (1978928) **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After (96270) **6.30** Bobby's World (24589) **7.00** Spirou (55847) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (34454) **8.00** Batman (93034) **8.30** Bots Master (92305) **9.00** Art Attack (83857) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (29947) **10.00** Gravedale High (74611) **10.30** Flash Gordon (72541) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (48909) **11.30** Gigantor (49638) **12.00** Gravedale High (63893) **12.30pm** Bots Master (23783) **1.00** Batman (54218) **1.30** Eek the Cat (22034) **2.00** Creepy Crawlers (4164) **2.30** Flash Gordon (2812) **3.00** Sonic (3299) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (4657) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (3164) **4.30** Art Attack (2676) **5.00** Close

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All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **5.00am** to **8.00pm**, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes (58096) **6.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (10763) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (18863) **7.30** Rugrats (37928) **8.00** Doug (39812) **8.30** Country Mouse and City Mouse (38183) **9.00** CBBC (52763) **9.30** CBBC (88893) **10.30** Babar (58947) **11.00** Magic School Bus (26763) **11.30** Bananas in Pyjamas (94164) **12.00** Paddington Bear etc (49299) **12.30pm** Portland Bill etc (69541) **1.00** Dr Seuss (17164) **1.30** Little Bear Stories (68812) **2.00** Jim Henson's Animal Show (9218) **2.30** CBBC (1744) **3.00** CBBC (8725) **3.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters/Doug (3589) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (2096) **4.30** Rugrats (1980) **5.00** Sister Sister (3270) **5.30** Sister Sister (5560) **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch (2473) **6.30** Kablam! (3725) **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00 Swan's Crossing (6245638) **12.30pm** Ready or Not (4519367) **1.00** Madison (8748562) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (4518638) **2.00** Saved by the Bell (6603725) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (4243218) **3.00** Ready or Not (6615560) **3.30** No Naked Flame (4248763) **4.00** Saved by the Bell (4227270) **4.30** USa High (4223454) **5.00** Hangtime (6627305) **5.30** Sweet Valley High (4247034) **6.00** Blast (4244947) **6.30** Madison (4235299) **7.00** Hangtime (6607541) **7.30** USa High (4224183) **8.00** Close

BRAVO

8.00pm The Prisoner (1711096) **9.00** LA Heat (1724560) **10.00** Tour of Duty (1734947) **11.00 FILM: Slaughter (1972)** (6883102) **1.00am** LA Heat (7487481) **2.00** Tour of Duty (9251771) **3.00 FILM: Slaughter (1972)** (1820058) **5.00** Alien Nation (1517042)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (3034) **7.30** Roseanne (9909) **8.00** Ellen (9454) **8.30** Cybill (8589) **9.00** Cheers (13298) **9.30** Taxi (89305) **10.00 FILM: Jabberwocky (1977)** (61560) **11.30** Nightstand (69229) **12.00** Soap (49823) **12.30am** Pig Sty (69936) **1.00** Entertainment UK (25752) **1.30** Taxi (44329) **2.00** Roseanne (45597) **2.30** Ellen (20232) **3.00** Cybill (18416) **3.30** Cheers (48684) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (8681251) **8.30** Making of Spawn (8880386) **9.00 FILM: The Darker Side of Terror (1979)** (9202657) **11.00** Friday the 13th (7756522) **12.00** Sightings (9856771) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (2973394) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (7105329) **2.00** Dark Shadows (7991416) **2.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (7807023) **3.00** Friday the 13th (2869972) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (8261676) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (4511725) **10.00** Garden Club (1908299) **10.30** Room Service (6250560) **11.00** Homemaker (2497812) **11.30** Graham Kerr (2498541) **12.00** Julia Child (6241812) **12.30pm** Hometime (4515541) **1.00** This Old House (8843118) **1.30** New Yankee Workshop (4514812) **2.00** Doing It Up (8616299) **2.30** Simply Delicious (4216184) **3.00** Gardens without Borders (6628034) **3.30** Two's Country Cooking (4228909) **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Turning Points (4230744) **4.30** Charlie Bravo (4236928) **5.00** Next Step (6690251) **5.30** Jurassica (4210980) **6.00** Amphibians (4217893) **6.30** Wild Sanctuaries (4231473) **7.00** Invention (6610015) **7.30** Turning Points (4237657) **8.00** Hunters (1717270) **9.00** New Detectives (1737034) **10.00** Justice Files (1707893) **11.00** Hitler-Stalin Dangerous Liaisons (1198363) **12.00** Special Forces (6605139) **12.30am** Charlie Bravo (2432348) **1.00** Conquest of the Incas (8154400) **1.30** Next Step (6770684) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered: Otters and Oil (9440270) **7.30** Sumo: Dance of the Gargantuans (1967812) **8.00** Jewelled Wings (1340096) **9.00** The Klondike Gold Rush (1353560) **10.00** Surfer Girl (8885763) **10.45** High Altitude Hang-Gliding (9199657) **11.00** They Never Set Foot on the Moon (4368183) **12.00** Jewelled Wings (7261503) **1.00am** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm American Caesar (7625589) **5.00** Sink the Bismarck (5162522) **7.00** Biography: James Gang (1767522) **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

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5.00pm Cross Wits (8744) **5.30** Say the Word (3928) **6.00** Family Fortunes (3541) **6.30** Catchphrase (4893) **7.15** The $64,000 Question (240763) **8.00** Split Second (800831) **8.30** Move on Up (6763) **9.15** Winner Takes All (501386) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (81102) **11.15** Whittle (581522) **12.00** Say the Word (26787) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (43619) **1.30** The Big Valley (81459) **2.30** Mighty Jungle (73394) **3.00** My Two Dads (76400) **3.30** Where I Live (60874) **4.00** The Fall Guy (40394) **5.00** Shopping (56348)

UK LIVING

6.00am Lucky Ladders (7617676) **6.35** Lingo (78374251) **7.00** Tiny Living (7258676) **8.00** I Dream of Jeannie (7860298) **8.30** Gordon Elliott (8012589) **10.10** Jerry Springer (7415744) **11.00** Young and Restless (9559812) **11.50** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (53599386) **12.20pm** Why Me? (31149705) **12.50** Rolonda (8204367) **1.40** Tempest (1863184) **2.30** The Heat Is On (3572134) **3.00** Live at Three (64700928) **4.05** Jerry Springer (9420473) **5.00** Rolonda (3541218) **5.50** Lucky Ladders (3372812) **6.25** The Heat Is On (6858454) **7.00** Hearts Afire (9861812) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (8722837) **8.00** Rolonda (3113980) **9.00 FILM: Blind Witness** (3123367) **11.00** Sex Zone (7238812) **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Film Deewane **8.00** Raahat **8.30** Positive Health **9.00** Yaadon Ki Baraat **9.30** Teri Bhi Chup Meri Bhi Chup **10.00** Dasht **11.00** Zaika Ka Safar **11.30** Hasratein **12.00** Andaz **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00 FILM 4.00** ZEE Zone **4.05** Kamal Kombination **4.35** Khel Time **5.00** Zone Time **5.30** Flu **6.00** Chutki Baja Ke **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Shoe Chale Chhe? **7.30** Mast Mast Hai Zindagi **8.00** News **8.30** Parampara **9.05 FILM 12.00** Close

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SPORT

GOLF 42
Magic touch earns Ballesteros share of lead in Paris

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1997

Hoddle takes positive path to lion's den

By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

THE long history of Rome is well-versed in moments of truth. If you put your *hand in the Bocca della* Verita, a mouth set in an ancient face of stone, and *tell a lie, legend* says that it will snap off your hand. If you set foot in the Olympic Stadium in front of 80,000 baying Italians on an October night and expect an easy ride to the World Cup finals at the expense of your hosts, reality dictates that you will suffer a rude awakening.

England's training schedule during the three days that they will *spend in the Eternal City before the* showdown with Italy on October 11 *and the fa*bled aversion of some of the players to seeing some of the great *sights of the* world, even when they are on their doorstep, means that Glenn *Hoddle need not* worry about members of his squad losing any fingers in *the* preamble to the game.

After the convincing 4-0 victory over Moldova on Wednesday night, the England coach's analysis of his team's prospects for World Cup qualification, now that they only need a point from the game in Rome, suggests that they will not lose their heads either.

He is optimistic, of course, and *has every reason to be. Without* Alan Shearer, Teddy Sheringham, Paul Ince and Tony Adams, England *still* produced an efficient performance to dispose of the Moldovans. In midfield, Paul Gascoigne returned to something close to his creative best; in attack, Ian Wright showed that he is a capable deputy for Shearer with two well-taken goals and an astute pass that set up the third goal for Gascoigne.

Gascoigne: creative

Even more important, perhaps, was the fact that Italy had slipped to a dull, goalless draw against Georgia in Tbilisi, a result that changed the whole complexion of group two by leaving England at its head and Italy needing to chase a win in Rome, rather than just a point.

Moreover, they will have to attempt to get those three points without the influential Chelsea midfield player, Roberto Di Matteo, who will be absent through suspension, and against an England team that should be *bolstered by the fearsome midfield* qualities of Ince and the defensive *nous* of Adams.

The way that the group has unfolded *is vindication of the* unflappable stance Hoddle has taken since England's defeat by Italy at Wembley in February, his calm assertion that qualification would go right to the wire. Even though the tables have now turned and England are in the driving seat, Hoddle is maintaining his *sense of perspective.*

"*It is a little bit early to start* thinking about Rome, but we will need steady heads over there and we will need to play shrewdly," Hoddle said. "It will be a hell of a task to win the game, but I have always said that I thought we could win there and I think, psychologically, there is an edge that has *swung round towards us.*

"We don't need to go there and win the game any more. The *pressure is just* a little bit more on them. Obviously, it is sometimes a great help to have 80,000 fans behind you, but, if the pressure builds up and they don't get a goal early, that could count against them.

"We have got a platform to go there now with belief. It is going to *be about how much* we have belief in ourselves to go there and win the game. *It is very difficult for English* players to go anywhere with the *mentality of drawing a game, so* our approach will still be to try to win. Give me my experienced players, and give me them fit, and we will be in with a good chance."

One of those experienced players is Gascoigne, who will have an extra incentive to perform to his optimum in the Olympic Stadium because he played there during his troubled years with Lazio in Serie A. Hoddle devoted a large portion *of his post-match comments* to praising the attitude of the player whom he has stuck by through thick and thin.

"If he had not had a good game," Hoddle said, "we all know what the headlines would have been and what the questions would have been — '*Was this* his last chance?' and 'We cannot play him in Rome' — but he was *absolutely* magnificent. Some people will say, 'it was only Moldova', but *if it was that* easy, all the players would have been doing what he was doing, but they weren't. It was Paul Gascoigne who was doing it.

"He showed enough during the Tournoi for me to know that, if he *could remain injury-free*, we could get him back to nearly his very best. He *has gone* a long, long way to showing that he has got that ability. At last, *he is starting to* show some real signs of maturity."

If Gascoigne can go to the Bocca della Verita after the match against Italy, say that he played his best game and emerge with his hand untouched, England should by then have secured their place in France.

Maldini comes under fire

ITALY yesterday turned on Cesare Maldini, with commentators warning that if they lost or drew against England next month his job as coach was on the line (Richard Owen writes).

"Oh Maldini, what have you done?" the headline in *Corriere dello Sport* wailed, while RAI, the Italian state television, gloomily contrasted Italy's "*abysmal*" performance in the 0-0 draw against Georgia *with* England's 4-0 win over Moldova.

Maldini was unrepentant. "We will play the game of our lives against England," he said. But the savage media coverage reflected the long faces among Italians reading the sports papers in the bars of Rome.

"It was a depressing spectacle," *Corriere* reported. "Just too many errors." "Now it's back to square one," *La Gazzetta dello Sport* said in a front-page editorial. "Somebody *should have told* Maldini that a draw in Stalin's city was as bad as losing. He has barely a month to turn things round, but he *has to lose his fear of taking risks* or we are out."

Gough adds to Yorkshire's woes

Defiant Marsh turns title tide in Kent's favour

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

HEADINGLEY (second day of four): Kent have a first-innings lead of 62 runs over Yorkshire

TOP OF TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Bt	Bl	Pts
Kent	16	7	4	4	43	56	228
Glamorgan	16	6	2	7	40	53	216
Yorkshire	16	6	2	7	39	53	209

Including bonus points from yesterday

EITHER side of lunchtime in Leeds, with the clouds low and *the ball swinging. Yorkshire*men dared to speak of victory and, moreover, of *the Holy* Grail that is the championship. After 29 years, it is a subject raised only with low voices in dark corners in these parts, but as five Kent wickets fell for 33 runs, even the most cynical in another 4,000-strong crowd began checking their diaries for next week.

It was then that Kent dem*onstrated the depth and det*ermination that has taken them to the head of the table *and may now keep them there.* Simultaneously, things began *to go wrong for Yorkshire,* none more serious than a hamstring injury that brought Darren Gough hobbling from the field, his comeback — and his season — at an end.

Without their spearhead again, Yorkshire began to toil. Chris Silverwood persevered to claim career-best figures of seven for 93, but the most *significant statistic of a second* riveting day was that, from the *predicament of 202 for seven,* the last three Kent wickets added 172, 84 of them scored by the captain, Steve Marsh.

For someone who regularly bats at No 9, Marsh has had a remarkable season. These runs brought his first-class aggregate to 821 and were *made, as is his wont,* without fuss or flourish. Kent secured a *first-innings lead of 62,* riches that had appeared far beyond them, and the bad light that prevented Yorkshire batting again was indicative of their darkening day.

The loss of Gough was central. He had bowled only five unthreatening overs before lunch and was in his first of a new spell when he pulled up. *Wayne Morton, physio*therapist to Yorkshire and England, admitted *the* possibility that the latest setback was connected to the knee injury that had kept him out of the last two Tests of the Ashes series.

"These things can happen through overcompensation," Morton said. "He will obviously *not* bowl again here and, as hamstring injuries take *three or four weeks to clear up,* the priority now is to get him *fully fit for his winter commit*ments with England."

The onus fell heavily upon Yorkshire's two recent England A selections and the fact that one took seven wickets and the other only one was an injustice. Paul Hutchison beat the bat more times than he could decently count before finally yorking Marsh. It could be called part of the learning curve for one to whom success has come in a rush, but Hutchison would have been ill-disposed to such philosophy.

Silverwood's day could hardly have been more different. *It seemed that he had only* to grab the ball to take a wicket. *His first over found* Fulton thin-edging a pull to be caught behind *and he struck* with the second and third balls of subsequent spells. Only while Ward was making a rapid 56 — 48 of them in fours — while the sun shone before noon *did Silverwood struggle.*

An inswinger from White hit Ward's leg stump and Headley, who had taken his nightwatchman brief to unexpected lengths, was thrown out by Stemp as he attempted a second run to third man. Byas recalled Silverwood and, as the cloud cover lowered, he defeated Wells and Ealham with late swing.

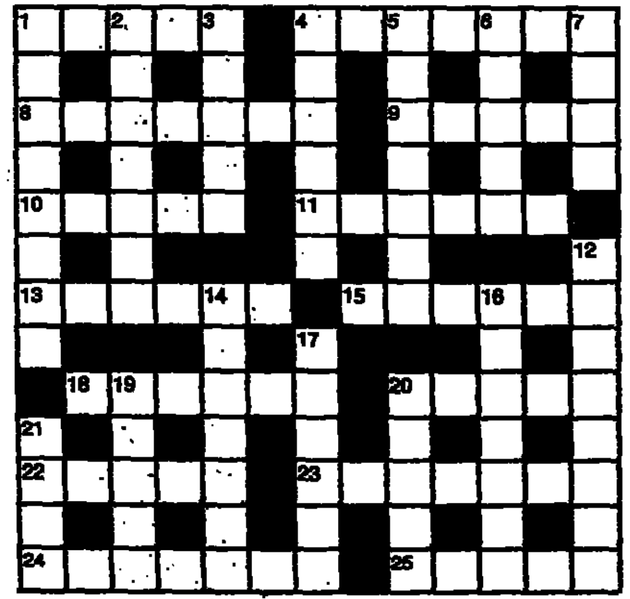
When Cowdrey stretched *forward to the first* ball after lunch, giving Blakey a regulation catch and *Silverwood his* fifth wicket, Kent were confronting a deficit large enough to be serious on a pitch cracked in places and offering increasingly uneven pace and bounce. Yorkshire, however, lost their way.

Gough and White left the field, the latter for running repairs to a back complaint, and Hutchison continued luckless, Byas dropping Fleming off him at slip with the score 241. Another 44 accrued before the stand was broken, once more by Silverwood, as Fleming was too adventurous outside off stump and depart*ed for a responsible* 53.

The best and most influen*tial batting came from* Marsh, spanning the afternoon session and another hour afterwards. Only against Vaughan, whose off spin he suddenly dispatched for 4-4-6, did he deviate from disciplined self-denial. The ninth-wicket stand of 86 with an *equally imperturbable* Strang may have turned this game, if the deteriorating weather permits a proper conclusion.

Silverwood celebrates the fall of Fleming, whose dismissal earned him career-best figures of seven for 93. Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1197

ACROSS
1 Supporting beam (5)
4 Foreign territory within one's own borders (7)
8 Take liberties (7)
9 Call forth (eg memories) (5)
10 Below: Welsh town (5)
11 A spice: red (hair) (6)
13 Agitated (6)
15 Direct (opposition, collision) (4-2)
18 Gloucester's bastard son (*Lear*) (6)
20 He made an *envious rent* (*J. Caesar*) (5)
22 Lump of displaced turf (5)
23 Heavy weight for stability (7)
24 Confirm, approve (7)
25 Vex (5)

DOWN
1 Language for Noh, haiku (8)
2 1 dn flower-arranging (7)
3 Durable; stubborn (5)
4 Slowly come out (6)
5 Purify (7)
6 Make reparation (5)
7 Former PM: old Garden (4)
12 Foot-soldiers (8)
14 0° latitude line (7)
16 Scorn, contempt (7)
17 Fit to eat (6)
19 Welsh patron saint (5)
20 Rosalind's companion (*AYLI*) (5)
21 Unemployed (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1196

ACROSS: 1 Pigtail 5 Cupid 8 Route 9 Grahame 10 Gift of the gab 12 Audrey 14 Setter 17 Go by the board 21 Engrave 22 Roost 23 Lotus 24 Trotter

DOWN: 1 Paraguay 2 Gruff 3 Awesome 4 Lights 5 Crave 6 Peasant 7 Diet 11 Predator 13 Drought 15 Embargo 16 Threat 18 Yeats 19 Aloft 20 Bell

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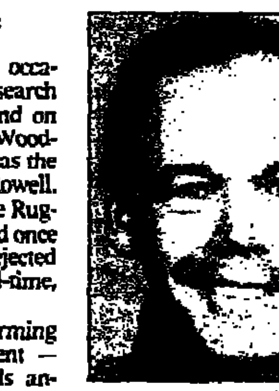
Woodward is new coach

By Mark Souster

*ENGLAND's long and occa*sionally embarrassing search *for a new coach will* end on Monday, when Clive Woodward will be confirmed as the successor to Jack Rowell. Woodward, to whom the Rugby Football Union turned once Ian McGeechan had rejected the job, has signed a full-time, three-year contract.

The delay in confirming Woodward's appointment — the international squads announced yesterday meet next Wednesday — had been caused by his reluctance to break his verbal agreement with *Bath*, where he has been coaching on a part-time basis this season. *He had hoped* to combine both roles until next June, but Twickenham has long insisted that whoever followed Rowell, who resigned *for business reasons* at the end of last month, would have to *commit himself full-time.*

"It was made clear 14 months ago that the next appointment would be full time and we could not go back on that, even if it *meant* losing Clive. We are delighted to *have worked things out* because he will be good for England," a source at Twick*enham said yesterday.*



Woodward: leaving Bath

Woodward, 41, was prepared to forsake the chance to take over rather than walk out on Bath. However, the club told him this week that he would be released, albeit reluctantly, rather than be denied the opportunity he covets. *Bath will be paid compensa*tion, the amount of which will be finalised over the weekend.

The complete coaching staff will be in place by Monday, with Roger Uttley confirmed as manager and John Mitchell, of Sale, as the forwards' coach. *Andrew Harriman will* manage England A, assisted *by Rob Smith, of Wasps, and* Richard Hill, of Gloucester, who had been *refused* permission by his club to contemplate a more senior role.

An extended training squad of 77 players will have an opportunity to meet the new management teams at Bisham Abbey on Wednesday, *among* them the two Wasps back-row forwards, *Mike White* and Peter Scrivener, who have yet to appear in an England A team or senior tour party. Every English player who toured with either the British Isles in South Africa or Eng*land in Argentina during* the summer is included.

Simon Shaw starts his first competitive match for Wasps on Sunday, when the English league champions play Glasgow in the second round of Heineken Cup matches. Meanwhile, Harlequins prefer *Huw Harries* to Nick Walshe at scrum half against Bourgoin at the Stoop Memorial Ground tomorrow and Jeremy Guscott returns from injury to the Bath side to play the Scottish Borders at Hawick on Sunday.

Underdogs handed Celtic tie

ALL prizes are coveted, but the semi-finalists of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup will feel that they are competing for more than just the trophy itself (*Kevin McCarra writes*). Yesterday, Dunfermline Athletic *were drawn to face* Celtic and Aberdeen to meet Dundee United.

There has been no trophy for Celtic since the Tennents Scottish Cup in 1995, even if the present side did seem *equipped to cope with the* demands during their 1-0 victory over *Motherwell* on Wednesday.

Dunfermline will view the tie as a means of atonement. Last year, they were crushed 6-1 by Rangers in the semi-final.

To Aberdeen, the Coca-Cola Cup represents a refuge. They have only won *twice* in the league since December. They won this cup two seasons ago, though.

Dundee United's victory over the holders, Rangers, testified to a recovery of their *form of last season.*

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